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IPHONELIFE.COM
JULY-AUG 2015 VOL. 7, NO. 4

OK, I'll see you soon!

THE HOW-TO GUIDE

300 Life-Changing Tips

1 Infinite Loop

2 min

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23

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iPhone +iPad Life MAGAZINE

July/August 2015

Regular Departments

iNews

Apple Watch:
Expectations vs. Reality
page 22

Apple's Plans
to Overthrow
Cable
page 26

THE HOW-TO GUIDE

Reflections on the Apple Watch

Amidst writing and editing in-depth tutorials for this year's How-To Guide, I obtained a new companion, and I bet you can guess what it is. Yep, the Apple Watch. I ordered Apple's first wearable in the middle of the night on April 10 (the day it became available for pre-order), and while I had resigned myself to a mid-May delivery, I was pleasantly surprised to receive it early.

We've had fun around the office vetting each feature. We've sent each other our heartbeats, drawn doodles, and carried on phone conversations from neighboring rooms, to which our web editor Sarah naturally concluded, "We're basically dating in middle school."

While the novelty of such features quickly wore off, I found myself quickly relying on the Apple Watch's other core capabilities. While working at *iPhone Life*, I've tested out lots of tech products that I was excited about initially but that I ultimately cast aside; I don't see this being one of those products. I've found it incredibly convenient for tracking my fitness, paying on the go, setting alarms, texting, and even talking on the phone.

My favorite watch feature is the subtlety with which it lets me accomplish tasks. When I'm spending time with my friends or family, I like to have my attention on them. And, admittedly, I'm terrible at multitasking. This has led me to miss important messages and calls. I've noticed that since beginning to wear the Apple Watch, I haven't missed anything, but I've also remained present with those around me.

The Apple Watch is a reminder that technology doesn't need to be a distraction or a crutch. Staring at your iPhone or iPad during a lunch date feels different than receiving a subtle tap on the wrist and addressing it within a few seconds.

During the rumor cycle of a product, we spend so much time wondering what a product will be like. Once it arrives, if it's a good product, we often can't imagine our lives without it. I'm not sure the Apple Watch has reached that point yet, but I think the potential is there.

Donna Schill Cleveland

Editor in Chief

iPhone Life magazine, donna@iphonelife.com

More Products, More to Learn

While creating this year's How-To Guide, we began to fully appreciate that the Apple experience no longer centers around one product. While it was once a point of pride for Apple to offer a minimalist lineup, for better or for worse, Apple has embraced offering a diverse range of personal electronics.

With new products come new ways of interacting with them. In this issue, we'll teach you how to make the most of the iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, and Apple Watch and how to use them in tandem to accomplish any task. We'll start from the beginning, walking you through how to set up your device and introducing you to the basics of navigating the interface. Apple creates products that are a joy to use. But imagine—how much more satisfying will the experience be once you've mastered all the features Apple has waiting for you? ⏻

Meet Our Writers

"This issue, I've written about eight products I discovered that can enhance your summer fun."

Paula Bostrom
Journalist
@paulabostrom
Article page 74

"Find out more about Apple's rumored TV streaming service and how it could challenge traditional cable providers."

Jordan Joynt
Digital Producer
@jdjoynt
Article page 26

"These apps for the Apple Watch will help you protect your most valuable as-set—your health."

Jacqui Lane
Tech Journalist
@dammitjacqui
Article page 78

"Learn how to use the unique functions of the iPhone 6 Plus, my most-used and beloved computing device."

Siva Om
Web Designer & Writer
Article page 55

"Communicating is the most important thing we do with our phones—which is why you need to make sure you're not Snapchatting like a dork."

Rebecca Santiago
Writer & Editor
@rebsanti
Article page 64

"I still have my original Macintosh setup audiocassette from 1984, so it was nice to help create a guide to Apple's latest and smallest computer more than thirty years later."

Todd Bernhard
Founder, No Tie Software
@ToddBernhard
Article page 56

Staff

"After discovering the Sennheiser Momentums at this year's Consumer Electronics Show, I was excited to test them out. I've also shared five hard-earned rules for conquer-ing 2048."

David Averbach
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Articles pages 66, 73

Donna Schill Cleveland
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Articles pages 31-45, 50-54

Sarah Kingsbury
Web Editor
Articles pages 32, 56

"I wasn't sure I even want-ed an Apple Watch, but I got one for work. When my watch arrived I was sur-prised by my reaction. Find out why in my review."

"Use iTunes and iCloud to manage and sync your me-dia and data, get excited about iOS 9, and find out how iPhones are changing the medical world for the better."

Jim Karpen
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Articles pages 31-45, 50-54, 58, 62

"From better understanding your camera to discover-ing users' biggest iPhone pet peeves, our guide will make using your iPhone more fun than ever."

iStats

News, Stats, Tidbits & more

THE NUMBERS

21 PERCENT

According to market research group Kantar, phablets accounted for 21 percent of smartphone sales during the first quarter of 2015, up from just 6 percent a year ago. This increase is due in part to the iPhone 6 Plus, which represented over 44 percent of phablet sales.

1 MILLION

Consumer trends firm Slice Intelligence estimated that nearly 1 million people in the US pre-ordered the Apple Watch on April 10—that's more than last year's Android Wear sales put together!

UNIQUE PRODUCT

Brikk Lux Watch Omni (starting at $110,000)
If you thought the $17,000 Apple Watch Edition was expensive, wait until you see the new Lux Watch line by Brikk. This 18-karat gold, diamond-encrusted Apple Watch costs as much as $115,000!

WHAT'S HOT IN THE APP STORE

Periscope
(Free)
Periscope isn't the first live video-streaming app, but it's certainly getting a lot of attention. This app by Twitter lets you watch and share live events from around the world, so you can feel like part of the action no matter where you are. You can share live videos through the app with all Periscope users or with a private group of select followers. To share on Twitter, tweet a browser link to your followers.

StoryCorps
(Free)
We can spend a whole lifetime with people and yet never really get to *know* them if we don't take the time to listen. The nonprofit StoryCorps aims to change that, helping you to conduct and archive interviews with your loved ones using lists of prepared questions in categories ranging from Family Heritage to Love & Relationships. Once finished, snap a photo of your interviewee and publish it to the StoryCorps website for others to enjoy. All interviews uploaded in the first year of Storycorps' March launch will be archived at the American Folklife Center at the United States Library of Congress.

Enlight
($3.99)
Imagine a photo-editing app that combines the best of **VSCO Cam** (free), **Union** ($1.99), and **Snapseed** (free), and you have Enlight. This powerful app has it all—from basic adjustment tools and filters to the ability to transform your images into paintings or combine them to create expressive collages or double exposures. Enlight's intuitive interface in spite of being flooded with features is what sets it apart from the pack.

QUICK NEWS

#TattooGate

After numerous users with wrist tattoos reported issues with the Apple Watch—many dubbing the problem "TattooGate" on Twitter—Apple finally acknowledged the matter on its website, stating that dark wrist tattoos have the potential to interfere with the Apple Watch's heart rate sensor, leading to inaccurate results. Apple's webpage clarifies that the "ink, pattern, and saturation of some tattoos can block light from the sensor, making it difficult to get reliable readings."

Facebook & LinkedIn Join to Support Women in Tech

In an effort to get more women involved in the study of technology, Facebook chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg and chief executive of LinkedIn Jeffrey Weiner are currently introducing tech-centered support programs to many college campuses. The purpose of these programs is to encourage women to pursue jobs in the tech industry and ultimately at Sandberg and Weiner's companies, which as of last year employed only 15 and 17 percent women respectively for tech-related positions.

Amazon Plans Drone Delivery

At some point, we've probably all wished that our online orders could just instantaneously appear on our doorstep, and now that day is finally here—well, almost. Amazon is working on a delivery service called Amazon Prime Air that could someday allow customers in select locations to receive packages in 30 minutes or less via drones that will fly right to their address.

Illustration by Mikaila Maidment, mikailamaidment.com

YOUR CAPTION HERE

Send us a clever caption for the cartoon above, and we'll feature our favorite entries in the next issue. The winner will receive a $25 iTunes Gift Card! Send all captions to comics@iphonelife.com.

JULY/AUGUST 2015 CAPTION WINNER

"The heights some people will go for a selfie."
Submitted by Chris Murphy

RUNNERS-UP:

"That's how to take a killer selfie."
Submitted by Mukhtar Ali Malik

"I'd die without my selfie stick!"
Submitted by Jay Cannie

Thanks to everyone who sent in their funny captions!

Donna, Editor in Chief: I've never been much for debates—it's hard to summon coherent responses on the spot. That's why I loved Sarah's idea for **Retort**, a genius little app that would listen in the background and send one-liners to the Apple Watch just at the right moment.

Noah, COO: The **Jedi Mind Trick** app would use NFC to generate vocal profiles of people so you could trick them into thinking they are talking to themselves. You may say: "The last cookie is mine," but they'll hear: "Your father never let you have the last cookie. Don't be an ass like your father—let this guy have it."

Sarah, Web Editor: Some coworkers and I came up with an idea for an app that lets you avoid the main pitfall of small-town dating—running into your ex everywhere! We called it the **Avoid Your Ex** app; it's similar to Find My Friends, only you would use it to avoid your ex at the grocery store or coffee shop.

Raph, CTO: My dream app would be a simple, progressive daily habit trainer. It would help me define my goal and build the new habit starting with 5 minutes per day, then progressively increase over time as I get better at it.

Apple Watch Beats All Other Smartwatches

The stainless-steel Apple Watch rated higher than 11 other smartwatches in a series of tests by *Consumer Reports* determining durability, health functionality, ease of use, ease of interaction, and visibility in bright light. bit.ly/1HfxL89

Twitter and Kids Weigh In on the Apple Watch

Overall, professional reviews of the Apple Watch lean toward the positive. But what do regular users think? A company called CrowdFlower analyzed more than 30,000 individual tweets on Twitter to find out. And a delightful video gives the charming reaction of 11 kids who are introduced to the Apple Watch. bit.ly/1AURJgU

Video Compares Rumored iPad Pro to iPad Air

It's rumored that Apple will be coming out with a 12.9-inch iPad called the iPad Pro. Alleged specs have been leaked and manufacturers are apparently already making cases for the larger iPad. This video gives a clear picture of how big the rumored iPad Pro would be. bit.ly/1bNtFWP

IPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY

Contest winners will receive the following prizes:

An olloclip Quick-Connect lens solution for the iPhone and iPod touch that includes fisheye, wide-angle, and macro lenses ($79.99 value, olloclip.com).

Photo Contest 1st Place

By Dan Kafalas

2nd Place

By Julian Tran

3rd Place
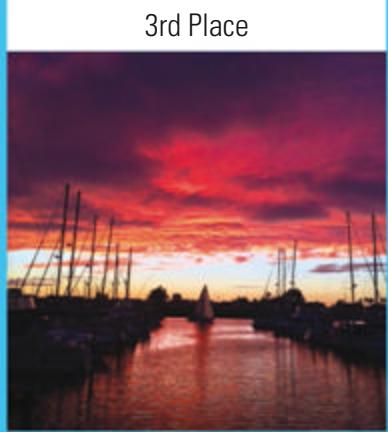
By StevieMac

CONTEST WINNERS

©iStockphoto.com/narchos

By Alex Uhlarik

Want to see your photo featured here? Enter your best shots at iPhoneLife.com/contest for a chance to win. Our editors will choose the top three entries, and our readers choose our fourth and final winner by voting for their favorite images on Facebook. Our Reader's Choice and 1st place winner will receive the olloclip 4-in-1 Lens as well as a spot in an upcoming issue of *iPhone Life* magazine.

Photo Contest Finalists

By Ray Young Jr.

By John See

By Edwin Jimenez

By Sateesh Bhamidipati

By Jacob Slocum

By Jordan Riva

By Tom Dri

By Stephanie Chen

The iTunes Gift Card Challenge

How would you spend a $50 iTunes Gift Card to plan a summer road trip?

Susan Babcock
Slate Hill, NY

BOOK
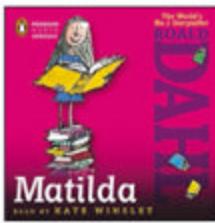
Matilda
($17.95)
This funny, engaging story will make the perfect audio-book for our trip.

APPS

Along the Way
($2.99)
I'd use this navigation app to find restaurants and attractions through-out our trip.

Heads Up!
($0.99)
This family-fun game will help pass the time when we're on the road.

WeatherPro
($2.99)
Staying abreast of storms and sun will help us plan our activities.

Camp Finder
($3.99)
We'll need help finding great places to set up camp.

Star Walk
($2.99)
We'll practice some astronomy fun with our kids with this stargazing app.

Postagram
(Free)
We'll use this card-creation app to send our family a photo postcard of our trip for $0.99.

Videoshop
($1.99)
We'll need this easy-to-use suite of editing tools to create family vacation videos.

MOVIE

Paddington
($14.99)
A good movie is a must for a long car ride.

TOTAL: $49.87

THE NEXT CHALLENGE: LEARNING A NEW SKILL

Attention, lifelong learners! Tell us how you would spend a $50 iTunes Gift Card to help you learn a new skill. To enter, send us a list of four to eight apps, movies, books, songs, or TV shows that add up to close to $50. Email your responses to challenge@iphonelife.com by July 4.

The winner will receive a $50 iTunes Gift Card and will appear in the September/October issue of *iPhone Life* magazine!

DREAMING
OF IOS 9

A pple makes its big software release each June, giving us a glimpse of the mobile operating system we'll be spending incessant amounts of time with in the year to come. If all goes according to schedule, Apple will demonstrate iOS 9 at the Worldwide Developers Conference (WWDC) and then wait to make it available for download until new iPhones ship in the fall.

For months, enthusiasts have been making lists of features they're hoping to see. Everyone's expecting an upgrade that focuses on stability, after years of flashy features that have left many older devices running less than smoothly. But even if dependability is the headlining feature of iOS 9, we can surely expect a slew of more exciting improvements as well. While we'll all happily welcome a more stable interface, that's not what Apple fanboys like me dream of at night. Here are some of the features I'm keeping my fingers crossed for in iOS 9.

FEATURES TO EXPECT

There are a handful of features we can reasonably expect, either because of leaked information or because Apple has already purchased a company that developed that capability.

1) SPLIT-SCREEN MULTITASKING

Concept Image by Sam Beckett

Last year, rumor had it that the iPad would incorporate split-screen multitasking with iOS 8, similar to what we've seen in Samsung's tablet and Note line. Although this feature hasn't debuted as soon as we would have liked, Apple's latest focus on the enterprise suggests there's a good chance we'll see split-screen multitasking soon. A rumor earlier this year also said that Apple will be increasing the size and bandwidth of the RAM in iPads and iPhones, which many speculate will be used for split-screen multitasking.

DREAMING
OF IOS 9

WHAT APPLE'S NEW OPERATING SYSTEM HAS IN STORE

BY JIM KARPEN

2) PUBLIC TRANSIT INFORMATION IN MAPS

Concept Image by 9to5Mac, Michael Steeber
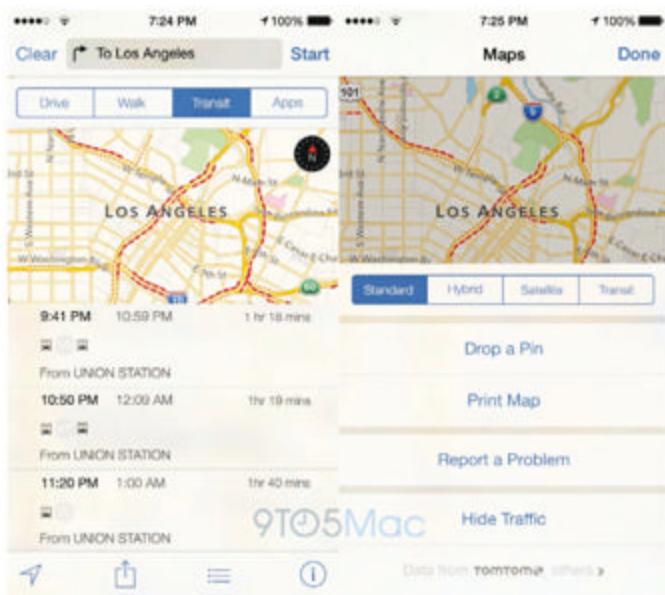
For years, the most notable omission in Apple Maps has been public transit information. Apple is clearly putting atten-

tion on this, as it purchased two mass-transit app developers in 2013—Embark and HopStop—that should enable Apple to add train, bus, and subway information to its app.

3) CROWD-SOURCED TRAFFIC DATA

After Google acquired Waze—the open-source platform that lets people report traffic conditions—Google Maps gained an edge over Apple by adding live traffic reporting. These real-time traffic updates are a must, and rumors suggest that Apple may finally incorporate this feature in iOS 9.

4) OPTIMIZED UPDATE

Remember how you needed more than 5 gigabytes of free space on your iDevice to install iOS 8? That was a big burden for users with just 16 GB of total storage space on their devices. With iOS 9, rumors say it will not only run smoother on older devices but also take up less space.

5) INDOOR DIRECTIONS

Apple also acquired indoor mapping company WiFiSLAM in 2013, which most expect will eventually lead to indoor directions in Apple Maps. Opinions are split on whether we'll see this feature in iOS 9 or have to wait until iOS 10 is released.

FEATURES ON OUR WISH LIST

Some features we've been hearing about aren't backed up by much hard evidence, but they are certainly on the wish lists of many.

6) SIRI FOR THIRD-PARTY APPS

Apple's virtual assistant is wonderful, and I use it all the time. But wouldn't it be nice if it worked on many of my apps rather than exclusively on Apple apps? Just as Touch ID became available to third-party developers with iOS 8, many are hoping for the same with Siri.

7) NFC FOR THIRD-PARTY APPS

Apple's long-anticipated inclusion of a near-field communication (NFC) chip in the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus was a big step for the company. Lucky users of the new phones are really enjoying the convenience of Apple Pay. Swipe your phone on the way out of a store, and your bill is paid. But what if you could also use it for other purposes, such as in place of a subway pass or to unlock a door? Here's hoping.

8) MULTI-USER SUPPORT

Sometimes several people share a single iOS device. Just as Apple's Mac software enables multiple accounts, so too should their iOS devices. That way all users can have their own settings, logins, apps, and media.

9) ABILITY TO SET DEFAULT APPS

If you click on a link in an email message, it automatically opens Safari. But what if you prefer a third-party web browser such as Chrome or Puffin? Currently, there's no way you can make it the default. Many are hoping that Apple will tweak iOS 9 so users can set their own default apps.

10) ABILITY TO HIDE APPLE'S APPS

Those of you who don't use Apple's offerings for services such as mail, calendar, and web browsing would like to be able to delete, or at least hide, Apple's apps. Right now you can hide them away in a folder, but perhaps with iOS 9 you'll actually be able to make them disappear.

11) HOME SCREEN WIDGETS

Concept Image by Jay Machalani

With iOS 8, Apple included the ability to add widgets to Notification Center's Today View. But for many users, that's not good enough. As is the case with Android, they want to be able to add widgets to the Home screen. I sympathize, but I also doubt we'll see Apple give up that sort of control over the user experience.

12) ABILITY TO SIMULTANEOUSLY CLOSE ALL RUNNING APPS

A double press of the Home button in iOS 8 brings up a handy screen that lets you swipe up on apps to quit them. But if you want to quit all of them, you have to do so individually. Many users are hoping for a feature that lets them quit all running apps with a single tap or swipe.

13) GROUP FACETIME CALLS

Apple has fallen behind on this one: the ability to have several people at once participate in a FaceTime call. With Skype, as many as 10 people can be involved in a group call. Many people expect Apple to include group calling at some point, and we're hoping to see it in iOS 9.

WE CAN DREAM

Apple enthusiasts offer no end of clever suggestions for what the tech giant could include in iOS 9. Here are some that Apple could consider.

14) ALTERNATIVES TO "HEY, SIRI"

Ever since Apple introduced Siri voice activation with the summons, "Hey, Siri," similar phrases like "Hey seriously" can inadvertently activate your virtual assistant. To avoid this problem, Apple could let users customize the phrase they wish to use to get Siri's attention.

15) SETTINGS HISTORY

Sometimes when you're fiddling around with your device, you change settings and end up with something you don't want—and then can't remember how you enabled it. One solution would be to have a history feature in Settings that would let you go back to previous settings, should the need arise.

16) SPELLING PROMPT FROM SIRI

Sometimes Siri just can't understand you, and you're forced to do things the old-fashioned way. In these instances, it would be great if Siri would simply prompt you to spell out what it can't understand.

17) CUSTOMIZABLE LOCK SCREEN

In addition to being able to add widgets to the Home screen, some would also like to be able to add widgets and change watch faces on the lock screen.

18) CUSTOMIZABLE CONTROL CENTER

I really like being able to use Control Center to quickly access settings such as Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, and Airplane Mode. But wouldn't it be great if we could choose which settings it gave us access to?

19) BATTERY-SAVING MODE

Other phones have this feature, so why not iOS? It would be nice when you're getting low on power to be able to switch into battery-saving mode with a single tap. It would turn off Bluetooth and Wi-Fi, dim the display, close down apps you aren't using, and turn off notifications and location data.

As good as iOS is, there's room for improvement. Fortunately, Apple gives us a new version each year, so it's likely that many of these features will be available sooner or later. ⏻

Jim Karpen, Ph.D, is on faculty at Maharishi University of Management in Fairfield, IA. He has been writing about the revolutionary consequences of computer technology since 1994. His Ph.D dissertation anticipated the Internet revolution. His site, jimkarpen.com, contains selected regular columns written for *The Iowa Source*. jim_karpen@iphonelife.com.

SIMore App

Apple Watch: A Hands-On Review

Last September following the first Apple Watch announcement, I was excited enough about the smartwatch's possibilities to put off buying a Fitbit until I learned more about Apple's new wearable. The official announcement and lukewarm early reviews left me feeling ambivalent, however, and while some colleagues were up at midnight on April 10 placing their orders, I was sleeping peacefully. A few days later I finally admitted I was going to need an Apple Watch in order to do my job and reluctantly placed my order for the 38mm Apple Watch Sport.

Getting Started

Smartwatches have a well-deserved reputation for looking like small calculators with wristbands, so I was surprised by how small and unobtrusive the Apple Watch was when strapped to my wrist. Like everything Apple designs, the watch was beautifully simple: the Digital Crown and side button were discreet, and the bands were easy to remove and put back on. It easily stayed connected to my iPhone 6 as long as I was in the same building, and though the 38mm model has a smaller battery than the 42mm, I never ran out of juice even after a full day of use.

Once I had the watch set up, I had no trouble figuring out the basics of navigation: Raising my wrist to activate the watch, swiping and tapping through glances and apps, using Force Touch to access hidden menus, double-pressing the side button to activate Apple Pay, and pressing and holding the crown to activate Siri.

Personalizing Your Wearable

After tailoring the settings and features of the Apple Watch, I saw and heard only what was useful to me. I was able to fine-tune which notifications were pushed from my iPhone, which contacts were added to the friends wheel, and what appeared in my glances and in what order.

Choosing my watch face was the most basic way I personalized my Apple Watch. Sadly, the choice is basically limited to beautiful watch faces and useful watch faces. Although I enjoyed watching colorful flowers unfurl on my wrist, after a few days I gave in and started using a practical one that featured "complications," so I could check the temperature, battery levels, and my activity progress at a glance.

Using the Watch

Fitness Tracking

I have been really pleased with the fitness-tracking capabilities of the Apple Watch. The step, calorie, and heart rate monitors are all effective and the Workout app is easy to use. I love getting a weekly summary of my activity as well.

I have never cared to track my sleep, so I don't mind that this capability is lacking, but I know it's important to many people and could be a significant shortcoming. I also find it unnecessarily complicated to track my workouts in one app, my activity in another app, and then to have to go to a third app (the Health app) on my iPhone to see a summary of everything I have been doing. Apple is usually much better at creating a smooth user experience.

by Sarah Kingsbury

Apple Pay

You'll have to set up Apple Pay for your watch even if you've already set it up on your iPhone. But once you do, paying for things on the Apple Watch is so easy (just double click the side button and hold the watch face to the NFC terminal until you feel a vibration on your wrist). I predict that as contactless payment becomes more common, people will start complaining when they have to actually get out a credit card.

Apps

Opening apps requires good aim and a steady finger. I quickly learned to save myself the frustration of using the app screen and have Siri open apps for me instead. Once you open an app, it becomes clear that Apple has put a lot of thought into making sure apps work on the Apple Watch, although apps like Weather and Maps that require your iPhone to push a lot of data can take a while to load.

Unfortunately, third-party apps still have a long way to go. They're slow to load and some developers appear to have added Apple Watch compatibility to their apps without adding any real watch functionality.

Calling and Messaging

While I wouldn't choose to initiate a call or message from my Apple Watch, I haven't missed a single call or message since they started vibrating on my wrist. And when I took a call on my watch while driving, I was able to hear and be heard by my caller while keeping my hands on the steer-

ing wheel. The default text replies seemed a little brusque and even unfriendly, but once I created customized replies with punctuation and emojis to convey context, I found myself using them frequently.

Final Verdict

One question everyone's been asking about the Apple Watch is, "Is it necessary?" My conclusion is that it's not. No more than your iPhone is, anyway, and many people have convinced themselves that they can't live without their iPhones. As Apple updates the watch's hardware and operating system and app developers begin to understand and leverage the new platform, I won't be surprised if people begin to feel the same about their Apple Watches as they do their iPhones.

Tim Cook was right when he said the Apple Watch is the most personal device Apple has ever created. Depending on how you choose to customize it, Apple's new wearable can help you stay on top of all your appointments and then help you navigate there. It can make sure you never miss a call or email or message again. You can even use it as a remote control. But ultimately, for most users, I believe the first-edition Apple Watch is going to be a very successful fitness tracker. While most activity monitors end up abandoned in the back of a drawer after a few months, the watch's extra capabilities greatly increase the odds that a user will continue to strap the Apple Watch on her wrist every day. ⏻

iPhone Life Rating

★★★★ ⚬

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1-847-763-4940

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Will Apple Unveil Its First TV Streaming Service at WWDC?

by Jordan Joynt

Apple has been alluding to its TV aspirations for years, and now it appears that the company is finally ready to take center stage with its plan to transform modern television. Ditching cable for streaming services has been an interesting proposal since the release of Netflix and Hulu. If Apple decides to add its own streaming option to the mix with major TV networks on board, it could become even easier to sever ties with traditional cable, which offers costly packages with little flexibility. Consumers hope streaming will offer a new way. If leaked information and suggestive comments from Apple executives prove true, we'll see not only a new and improved Apple TV but also a streaming TV subscription service announced at Apple's annual Worldwide Developers Conference (WWDC) in June and released to the public come September.

Apple CEO Tim Cook shared his most direct comments to date during Apple's end-of-quarter conference call in April. He said to expect "major, major changes in media that are going to be really great for consumers," and that Apple planned to have a hand in these changes.

"According to a 2014 Nielson report, the average American cable subscriber gets access to a prepackaged bundle of 189 channels, but regularly watches a mere 17 channels."

Cook's comments came on the heels of Apple's new partnership with HBO, for the first time letting consumers access the premium network's programs for $15 per month without paying for a bundled cable package.

How Apple's TV Service Could Work

According to a 2014 Nielson report, the average American cable subscriber gets access to a prepackaged bundle of 189 channels, but regularly watches a mere 17 channels. And subscribers pay an average of $90 month for this access, whether they use the channels or not.

Apple's service would counter cable's uncompromis-

ing approach. According to a report from the *Wall Street Journal*, as of March, Apple was working to reach deals with programmers, including ABC, CBS, and Fox. Based on accounts from sources familiar with Apple, the *Journal* laid out details of what the tech giant's service might look like, saying the subscription will cost $30–$40 and offer access to 25 channels from major networks, potentially including ESPN, Comedy Central, FX, and MTV. They say Apple is opting for a slimmed-down offering by only partnering with major networks instead of the hundreds of channels that standard cable offers.

A notable absentee from the agreement is Comcast-owned NBCUniversal. While Apple and Comcast were reportedly in talks last year, the *Journal*'s sources said Apple became convinced that Comcast intended to promote its own streaming set-top box with its X1 platform.

Even with the loss of NBCUniversal, Apple still has plenty of offerings on the table to carry out a competi-

tive subscription service. In early March, Apple announced its partnership with HBO to launch HBO Now, for the first time offering access to the network for $15 per month. If the service starts to pick up steam, it could be possible for others to partner up, including Comcast.

Following Apple's usual product release pattern, both the subscription service and an updated Apple TV will likely be announced in June at WWDC and released in September. In addition to aesthetic changes, the set-top box will also include the latest A8 processor, added storage, and a revamped operating system, a source told *BuzzFeed*. It's also expected to work with Home-kit-enabled devices. Other apps and music functionality will be a probable extension as well. Tellingly, the company website lists the device as "starting at $69," insinuating the coming of a higher-priced model.

The Backstory

Speculation started to arise about Apple's TV plans back in 2009. That year, Apple pitched a TV service to networks that would stream via iTunes and cost $30, according to *AllThingsD*.

> "When you go in your living room to watch the TV … it almost feels like you're rewinding the clock and you've entered a time capsule and you're going backwards."

At the time, however, Apple TV failed to pick up a massive following. Apple has sold more than 25 million units of the set-top box to date, which is still a fraction of the sales the iPhone and iPad have garnered. Since iTunes already had 100 million users, Apple reportedly settled on the music software as the driving force for the TV streaming service. Using iTunes still makes sense today. It continues to be very popular among users, and it doesn't hurt that you can find iTunes on any Mac or iOS device.

Since 2009, Apple has clearly had a hard time getting the support it needs from broadcast and cable TV programmers. Still, CEO Tim Cook hasn't passed on oppor-

tunities to insult the state of television, calling it "stuck back in the '70s" in an interview on the Charlie Rose show last September. "Think about how much your life has changed, and all the things around you that have changed," Cook said. "And yet … when you go in your living room to watch the TV, or wherever it might be, it almost feels like you're rewinding the clock and you've entered a time capsule and you're going backwards. The interface is terrible."

The Competition

While Apple TV appears to be gaining momentum, it's not the only one. Other subscription services such as Netflix and Hulu have started to offer more flexibility, while others, like Sling TV, Dish Network's new $20/month streaming TV package, continue to gain popularity. These options are already causing people to cut the cord with cable.

Other questions remain. Will Apple's streaming service be that much cheaper than cable? Because some companies have exclusive deals with Netflix and Hulu, will users save any money if they need to buy subscriptions to these services on top of Apple's? Price will likely weigh heavily on people's decisions. After all, most people looking to drop their current cable service also want to save money in the long run. Sling is likely going to be Apple's biggest competitor out of the box. It costs $20 for the basic package and includes 20 channels, including ESPN and the Food Network.

Cable providers could step up the competition as well, by unbundling their channels and offering slimmed-down packages that allow customers to pick and choose the channels they want.

Wait and See

A new television service, and possibly other interesting gadgets, will supposedly make an appearance at WWDC in June. A TV service would be an exciting new endeavor for Apple and consumers alike. But, now that the likes of Amazon, Netflix, and Sling have grown into streaming powerhouses, there's no doubt that Apple will be facing some pretty stiff competition. Will Apple's streaming service be compelling enough to make you finally cut the cord? ⏻

Jordan Joynt is a web content producer for Meredith Corporation. He also writes about emerging technology, mobile news, and interesting Kickstarter projects. To see more of his work, visit jordanjoynt.com.

SPONSORED APPS

APPLE WATCH READY

ProCamera 8
($4.99)
This all-in-one photo, video, and editing app is bursting with cutting edge technology. ProCamera 8 is designed for beginners and advanced users alike with sophisticated yet intuitive controls, such as exposure swipe, manual focus, and robust editing tools. Upgrade to vividHDR, the world's best HDR for iOS, to achieve dazzling clarity and brilliant colors even in challenging lighting conditions. Take your photos to the next level!

Is My Dog Fat
($2.99)
Never stress unnecessarily about your dog's health again—this app lets you monitor your dog's weight and calculate his body condition scores. The app supports up to five dogs and comes with an Apple Watch extension, which you can use to track your dog's activity without having to use a separate fitness tracker. Simply select which dogs are with you, and start your walk or run—Fido's activity trends will be uploaded directly to the app.

SQUIRRELED
($0.99)
Help Squirrel prepare for winter by collecting and dividing numbered acorns in this fun math game. Goals increase each round, so the game is never boring.

Simply HDR
($1.99)
This app creates realistic and stylized HDR effects with a few simple steps, resulting in captivating, mesmerizing, and beautifully detailed shots.

SPOTLIGHT

Dripthat
(Free)
This creative photo- and video-sharing app is the only one that combines both photos and videos into a single album. It also lets you request albums from your friends. A unique wheel lets you schedule when you'd like to share content: all at once, or in "drips" that span from 5 minutes to 90 days. With superior privacy settings and list segmentation, Dripthat gives you the best control over what, when, and with whom you share.

Sidechain
(Free)
Test your mental speed in this addictive game that has you tapping left and right on the screen as moving boxes fly down the conveyer belt.

Glimpse
($2.99)
Glimpse lets you browse your favorite webpages on your phone, on your wrist , or in Notification Center. See the web on your wrist!

Zig Zag Boom
(Free)
Put your reaction time to the test with this fast-paced game, where your goal is to follow a zigzagging path without hitting any walls.

Pulse
(Free)
Pulse is a great aggregator with a beautiful modern design. You can save stories as you browse, and send them to Pocket, Instapaper, and other apps.

FEATURED

Flipboard
(Free)
Flipboard turns your iPhone or iPad into a beautiful digital magazine that delivers stories from a diverse assortment of news channels, from the *New York Times* to your favorite blogs. The layout resembles a print publication in that you flip the page to read through a story or to reveal other news categories. In addition to news, sports, and politics, you can include your Facebook and Twitter news feeds in your customizable stream. Most articles in Flipboard are automatically stripped of web ads, leaving only the text in a format that's easy to read. You can collect your favorite stories into your own magazine and share articles on your social networks or via email.

What's on iPhoneLife.com?

AT&T ANNOUNCES NEW iPAD DATA PLANS: $5/DAY, $25/3 MONTHS

For those who only need occasional connectivity, such as during a day trip, AT&T has announced a plan that's $5 per day for 250MB of data that can be used over a 24-hour period.

TOP 5 PHOTOGRAPHY APPS FOR THE iPHONE AND iPAD

Out of a crowded field, I've distilled a list of my top 5 iPhone camera apps, ones that I've put to continual use, and they've consistently performed well. Read on, some of my top picks may surprise you!

TIPS & TRICKS FOR LESSER KNOWN FEATURES OF iOS 8

Humans use only 10 percent of their brains. Actually, that's a myth, but it's probably not a myth that many of us utilize only about 10 percent of our iPhone's capabilities.

NEW RUGGED BLUETOOTH SPEAKERS: THE BUCKSHOT AND SLINGSHOT

The sound that this speaker pumps out is plenty sufficient to be heard loud and clear over the sound of a roaring shower, a raging river, or a raucous day at the park.
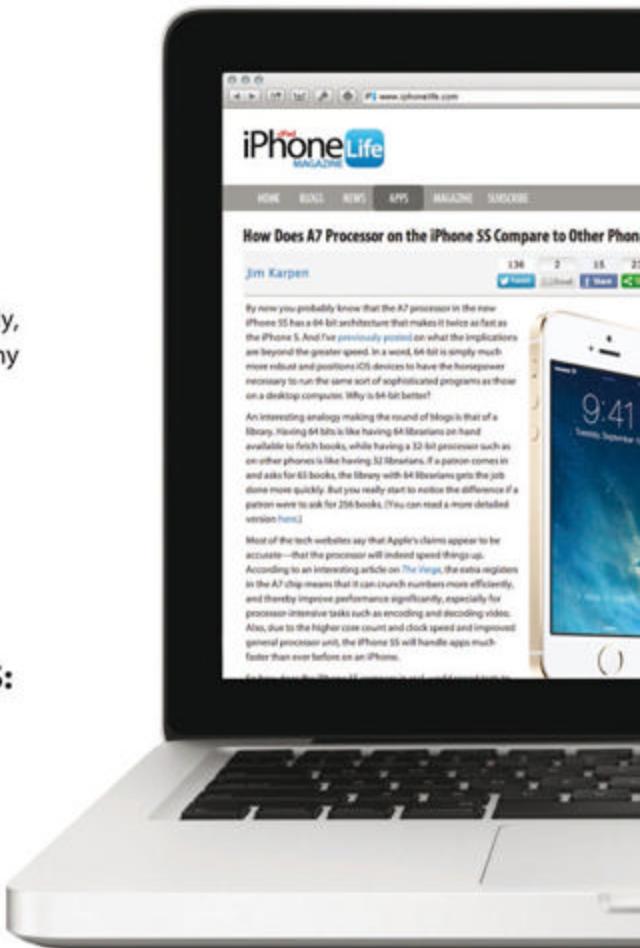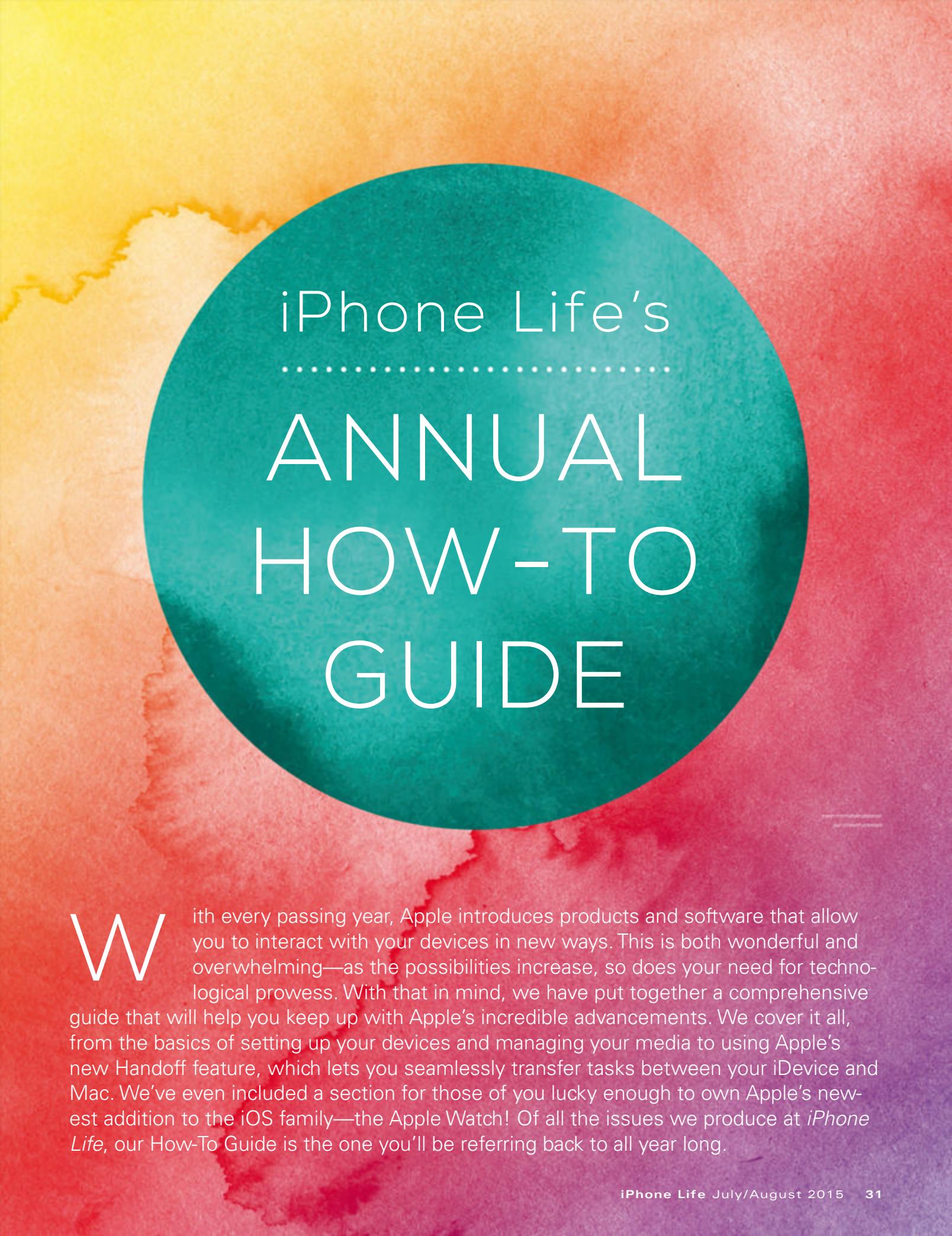
iPhone Life's

ANNUAL HOW-TO GUIDE

With every passing year, Apple introduces products and software that allow you to interact with your devices in new ways. This is both wonderful and overwhelming—as the possibilities increase, so does your need for technological prowess. With that in mind, we have put together a comprehensive guide that will help you keep up with Apple's incredible advancements. We cover it all, from the basics of setting up your devices and managing your media to using Apple's new Handoff feature, which lets you seamlessly transfer tasks between your iDevice and Mac. We've even included a section for those of you lucky enough to own Apple's newest addition to the iOS family—the Apple Watch! Of all the issues we produce at *iPhone Life*, our How-To Guide is the one you'll be referring back to all year long.

Getting Started

LEARNING THE BASICS

MEET YOUR IPHONE

Status bar
Receiver/front microphone
FaceTime camera
Ring/Silent switch
Volume buttons

App icons

Multi-Touch display

Headset jack
Bottom microphone

True Tone Flash
iSight camera

Rear microphone

Sleep/Wake button

Sim card tray

Home button/Touch ID sensor

Speaker
Lightning Connector

STATUS ICONS

If you look closely, you'll notice a row of small symbols running across the top of your screen. Knowing what they mean can help you gain helpful information at a glance:

Cell Signal
Strength of cellular network (if you're out of range, "No service" will appear).

Airplane Mode
All phone, Internet, and Bluetooth capabilities are disabled.

Carrier and Network Type
Your carrier's name and type of data connection: LTE, 4G, 3G, E, or GPRS.

Wi-Fi Call
Making a call via a Wi-Fi network.

Wi-Fi
Strength of Internet connection over a Wi-Fi network.

Do Not Disturb
All incoming messages, calls, and notifications are silenced.

Personal Hotspot
Your device is providing a personal hotspot for another device.

Syncing
Your iDevice is syncing with iTunes.

Network Activity
Your device is processing a request.

Call Forwarding
Call Forwarding is turned on.

VPN
You have secure access to private data via a virtual private network.

TTY
Your device is set to work with a TTY machine for hearing and speech impairments.

Orientation Lock
You've locked the screen in portrait orientation.

Alarm
An alarm is set.

Location Services
An app or system setting is tracking your location.

Bluetooth
When grey, Bluetooth is on but the phone is not paired with a device. When blue or white, Bluetooth is paired.

Bluetooth Battery
Battery level of a paired Bluetooth gadget.

Battery Status
Shows battery level or charging status.

AirPlay
Your device is connected to Apple TV or another AirPlay-enabled device.

BUILT-IN APPS

Your iPhone and iPad come loaded with a variety of useful apps. Learning to use these alone will make you a venerable power user.

Camera: The 8-megapixel iSight camera allows you to shoot HD, slow-motion, and time-lapse videos, as well as take gorgeous pictures in regular, square, or panoramic format.

Photos: In the Photos app, you can organize photos and videos by date, location, or album; edit shots and footage; and share media via iCloud Photo Sharing.

Music: Access all songs and playlists from your iTunes library, as well as iTunes Radio, Apple's streaming music service.

Safari: Browse the web with unlimited tabs, strip web pages with Reader Mode, and save articles to Reading Lists and Bookmarks.

Maps: Get to your destination smoothly with turn-by-turn directions, real-time traffic info, and impressive 3D views with Flyover mode.

Siri: This voice-activated personal assistant offers a fast way to set reminders and appointments, get directions, calculate tips, and get answers to all of your questions.

Phone: Fulfilling your device's original purpose, the Phone app lets you make calls, view contacts, track recent incoming and outgoing calls, and access visual voicemail.

FaceTime: Make video or audio calls over a Wi-Fi or cellular connection to other iDevice users.

Messages: Message individuals or groups with text, audio, photos, and videos. They're free to send to other iUsers via iMessage.

Mail: Send and receive emails from all of your accounts with Mail, which makes it easy to empty your inbox with simple swipe-to-delete actions.

Game Center: Challenge friends or random opponents from around the world while trying to make it onto score leaderboards.

Passbook: This app stores boarding passes, tickets, rewards cards, coupons, and credit cards, making travel and shopping super convenient.

iTunes Store: Shop for movies, TV shows, and music, and access your downloads on all of your iDevices through iCloud.

App Store: Offering more than 1.4 million free and paid apps, the App Store lets you browse top picks and categories or search for specific titles.

Contacts: Store your contacts' names, phone numbers, email and mailing addresses, social media info, and more.

Calendar: Viewable by day, week, or month, the Calendar helps you organize and stay on top of your busy schedule.

Reminders: Keep track of your to-do's by setting time- and location-based reminders, separated into lists you can share with family or friends.

Notes: Jot down lists, information, or passing thoughts, and easily access your notes on any of your devices with iCloud.

Voice Memos: Record a memo when you can't type a note. It's also perfect for recording song ideas and interview clips.

Clock: Check the time in cities around the world, set alarms, timers, or use the stopwatch.

Videos: Watch TV shows and movies that you've downloaded from the iTunes Store.

Weather: Check current weather conditions, accompanied by dynamic weather displays, as well as forecasts for up to six days.

Stocks: Stay up to the minute on the latest market news. Check charts and articles, or ask Siri for specific stock quotes.

Calculator: Use this handy tool for calculations on the go, whether figuring out a tip or balancing your checkbook.

Newsstand: Access all of your magazine and newspaper subscriptions in one place, and search for new titles you might like to purchase.

iBooks: Choose from a large collection of books—from classics to modern bestsellers—to download and read. Syncs across all iDevices with iCloud.

Compass: Get your bearings with the help of the Compass, which shows the four cardinal directions with degrees, or swipe left for a handy level.

Apple Watch: Use this app to pair your Apple Watch with your iPhone or to peruse the different styles of Apple's first wearable.

Health: This app gives you a bird's-eye view of your health by pulling in nutrition and fitness information from third-party apps and devices. ⏻

HOW TO

BASIC HAND GESTURES

Swiping and tapping gestures are at the center of Apple's touchscreen experience, giving you access to all of your iPhone and iPad's basic functions. Check out this simple guide to learn the main controls you'll be using on a daily basis.

Tap: Tapping your touchscreen is like clicking a desktop mouse. To open an app, tap its icon. When browsing online, tap highlighted words or images to visit linked webpages.

Double Tap: Tapping twice in succession zooms in on or out of text and images. This is useful for inspecting images or enlarging text for easy reading. If you have the iPhone 6 or 6 Plus, double tapping the Home button will activate Reachability, which shifts the device's larger screen down so it's easy to access the top corners.

Hold: Pressing and holding lets you select text or images you'd like to cut, paste, or copy to another location. For text, just press and hold your finger until a blue highlight appears over your selection. Drag the edges of the blue area to adjust your selection, and release for the option to copy, cut, or paste. For images, press and hold until the option appears to copy the image or save it to your Photos app.

Swipe: Swiping is increasingly useful for everything from handling notifications to sorting mail. Swipe up from the bottom of the screen to access Control Center; swipe down from the top of the screen for Notification Center. To open Spotlight Search, place your finger at the top of the screen but still within the app field and swipe down. Swipe down on a banner notification to respond to a text, accept an event invitation, or to delete a message. Many third-party apps use swipe gestures too; just follow the on-screen instructions after you've installed it.

Swiping is also useful for reading books and articles. Swipe gently to scroll slowly while you read; flick to fling the contents of the page up or down quickly. To halt a natural scroll, tap anywhere on the screen. You can also tap the top of the screen to instantly return to the top of a page.

Pinch: By pinching your thumb and forefinger and spreading them apart, you can zoom in to enlarge areas of your screen. To return to a zoomed-out view, pinch your fingers together again.

Rotate: Take two fingers and turn them clockwise or counterclockwise to rotate elements, such as maps.

IPAD-ONLY GESTURES

The Flick: To summon the multitasking bar and see your most recently used apps, press four fingers into a claw against the screen, and flick them upward. To exit the multitasking view, claw-swipe down.

The Squeeze: This gesture lets you return to the Home screen instantly, no matter what app you're using. Just place your spread-out fingertips on the screen, and pinch them into a claw.

The Page-Through: Have a bunch of apps open? Pretend you're paging through a book, swiping left or right with four or five fingers to find the app you're looking for. ⏻

HOW TO

SETTING UP YOUR DEVICE

CREATING AN APPLE ID
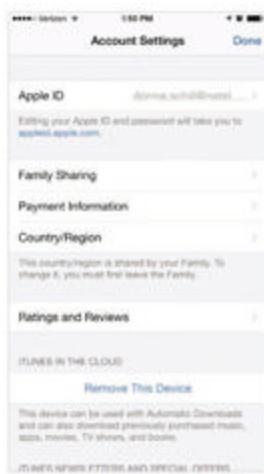
The most important thing a new iDevice owner can do is to create an Apple ID—the email address you'll use to access and store content in iCloud, make FaceTime calls, send iMessages, and purchase items from the App Store and iTunes Store.

If you didn't set one up when you first powered on your device, go to Settings > iTunes & App Stores > Create an Apple ID, and follow the on-screen instructions. You'll also be prompted to create a password and enter a credit card, which will be charged when you make purchases. Apple recommends you use the same Apple ID for all of its services, which you activate individually by going to Settings, tapping Messages, FaceTime, Game-Center, or iCloud, and signing in with your Apple ID.

DECORATING YOUR DEVICE
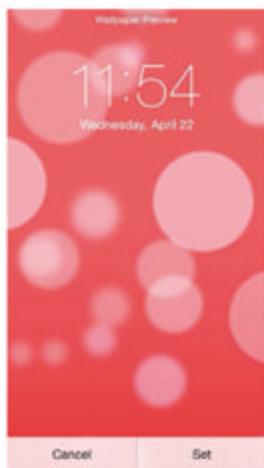
One easy way to make your device your own is to customize the background on your Home and lock screens. Go to Settings > Wallpaper > Choose a New Wallpaper to pick from a collection of Stills ranging from frost-covered forests to the Northern Lights or from Dynamic displays of bubbles that shift as your device moves.

You can also use your own photos as wallpaper. Just tap from a list of your albums, select the image you want, and adjust its scale and alignment and tap Set. You'll have the choice to Set Lock Screen, Set Home screen, or Set Both.

CUSTOMIZING YOUR SOUNDS

You'll find all the tools you need to tailor your iPhone jingles in the Settings menu under Sounds. Here, under Sounds and Vibration Patterns, you'll see a list of notifications to which you can assign tunes and chimes. Tap each item in the list to pick from Apple's collection of sounds. To opt out of audible alerts, select None. To make a popular song your ringtone, tap Store in the upper right corner to shop Tones in the iTunes Store. Back in Sounds, you'll have the option to set your phone to vibrate when your phone rings or when it's in silent mode. You can set your ringer volume in Settings or tap Change with Buttons to allow adjustments with the volume buttons. You can also disable your phone's default Lock Sounds and Keyboard Clicks at the bottom of the screen for more discreet use.

SETTING UP MAIL
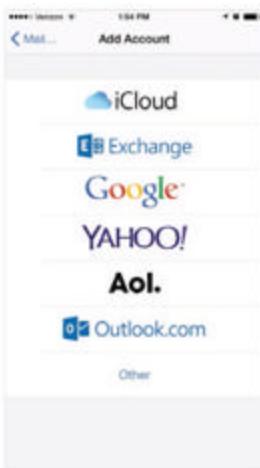
To begin emailing, link one or more of your accounts to the iPhone's version of Apple Mail. Go to Settings > Mail, Contacts, Calendars > Add Account, and you'll see a list of email hosts. Choose your provider, and enter your name, email address, password, and account description. If your email host isn't listed, tap Other, then tap Add Mail Account and enter your information. You may need to contact your email provider for help finding out if your account is POP or IMAP and to learn the addresses of the incoming and outgoing mail servers. ⏻

HOW TO

NAVIGATING YOUR DEVICE

A pple's mobile operating system (iOS) offers a simple, uniform experience across the iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. Once you know the basics of iOS, you'll be handling your device like a pro in no time.

A SIMPLE LAYOUT

Your iPhone and iPad center around the Home screen, which stores icons for all of your apps. Tapping an app icon opens the corresponding app; pressing the Home button (the circular button below the touchscreen) takes you back to the Home screen. Apple has also thoughtfully included a few shortcuts to everyday tools and settings with Notification and Control Center.
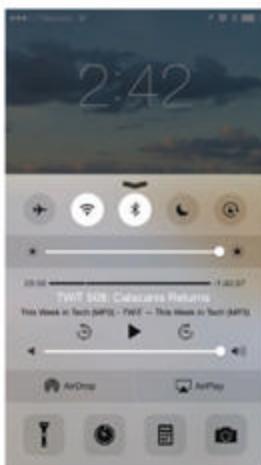
CONTROL CENTER

This handy panel of quick settings appears when you swipe up from the bottom of your screen. It houses frequently used settings such as Airplane Mode, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Do Not Disturb, brightness, audio control, and Air-Drop (which lets you share files with new Apple devices connected to the same Wi-Fi network). You can also launch the Clock, Calculator, Camera app, or flashlight by tapping their corresponding icons in the bottom row. By default, you can access Control Center from any screen, or you can disable access while using apps or from the lock screen in Settings > Control Center. You can close the settings panel one of three ways: swipe down, tap the top of the screen, or press the Home button.

NOTIFICATIONS & WIDGETS
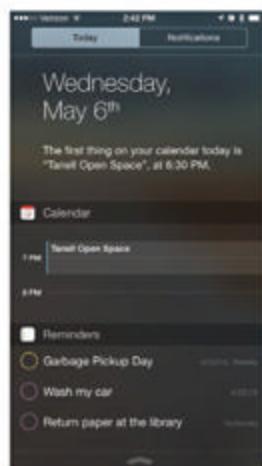
Swiping down from the top of your screen opens Notification Center, a gathering of timely information about your life. The Notifications view on the right displays missed calls, texts, and alerts from your app collection. The Today view on the left is a list of timely information that you can customize by tapping Edit at the bottom of the Today screen. You'll be able to choose to include updates from the Weather, Clock, Stocks, Calendar, and Reminders apps as well as widgets from third-party apps you've installed on your phone.
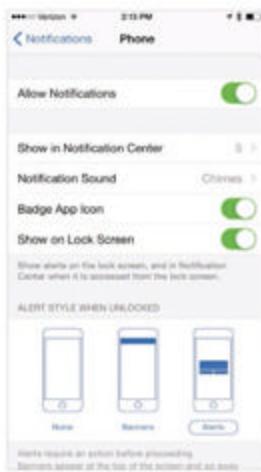
You can tailor how apps send you notifications by going to Settings > Notifications. Choose between banners that appear at the top of your screen, pop-up alerts, or nothing at all. You can also switch on or off the Badge App Icon, which lets you see which apps have new notifications from your Home screen by pinning a red number to your app icons.

MANAGING APPS
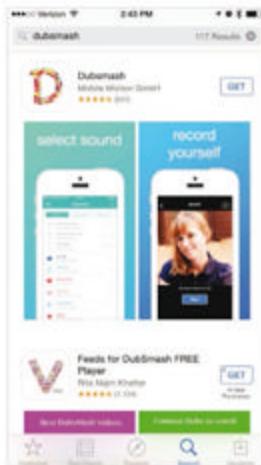
Apps are bite-sized software programs that give you amazing capabilities on your iOS devices, from managing work projects to improving your health.

Downloading apps on your iPhone or iPad is a simple process. Once you've launched the App Store app and found a title you want to download, tap the price and then BUY for paid options or tap GET for free ones, then verify the download via Touch ID or by entering your Apple ID password.

To find new apps, tap the Featured section to peruse Apple's picks or Top Charts to see the most downloaded apps and top-grossing titles. The Explore tab features apps by category and locally produced apps, the Search bar lets you find specific titles, and Updates lets you manage app versions and restore past purchases.

You can also install apps from the iTunes Store on your computer by opening iTunes, clicking iTunes Store, and clicking on Apps in the dropdown menu. You can search apps by iPhone and iPad compatibility, or look for a small "+" symbol in the upper left corner of an app's price box to see if it's universal.

You can also see a list of compatible devices under each app's Information subhead. To download an app, click the price, click install, log in to iTunes with your Apple ID, and the app will appear on your iDevice.

AUTOMATIC APP UPDATES

App developers usually update their offerings regularly, and you can decide whether you'd like to install these updates automatically or by hand. To maintain control over the process, go to Settings > iTunes & App Store, and toggle off Apps under Automatic Downloads. Go to Updates in the App Store to control the process manually.

MULTITASKING

To see a list of your most recently used apps and favorite contacts, double-tap the Home button and the items will appear on the screen in a side-scrolling list. Tap a name to make a call or tap an app to open it. You can close as many as three apps at a time by swiping up with your fingers.

ORGANIZING & DELETING APPS

To delete an app, press and hold on the icon until it begins to wiggle. A transparent circle with an X will appear in the left-hand corner; press the X, and when a prompt appears, tap Delete.

To move an app, tap and hold on the app you wish to move. Once it begins to wiggle, drag it to your desired spot or all the way to either side of the screen to carry it onto a new screen. To create a folder, drop an icon on top of another app. The default folder name will be based off of the app categories, but if you tap the name field, your keyboard will pop up, and you can rename it. You can put an unlimited number of apps in a folder. ⏻

HOW TO

STAYING SECURE

O ur iPhones are at the center of so much that we do. As such, it's wise to take measures to ensure that no one can access the personal data it stores, such as credit cards, emails, and photos. That way, even if your iPhone falls into the wrong hands, you'll be protected.

SETTING UP TOUCH ID & PASSCODE
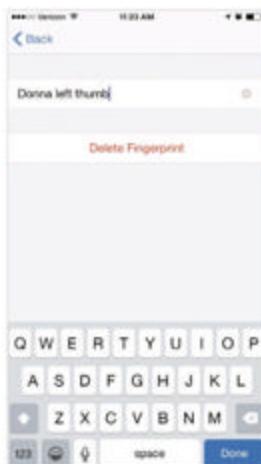
If you have an iPhone 5s or later, the Home button houses a Touch ID fingerprint sensor, which you can use to unlock your phone, authenticate purchases from the iTunes and App Store, access third-party apps, and make transactions with Apple Pay (if you have the iPhone 6 or 6 Plus).

To use the sensor, go to Settings > Touch ID & Passcode. You'll be prompted to enter your passcode if you have one; otherwise, you'll be asked to set one up. Under Fingerprints, tap Add a Fingerprint to enroll as many as five fingers. You'll be prompted to lift and press your finger until the process is complete. Tap the entry to rename it. Touch ID isn't an all-or-nothing deal—you can specify which services you'd like to use it for in Settings. Many third-party apps now support Touch ID too, which you can enable in individual app's settings.

TIP: KEEP TEACHING TOUCH ID

You can continue to improve the accuracy of Touch ID even after setup. Just go to Settings > Touch ID & Passcode, and begin tapping an enrolled finger on the Home button. You'll see the finger name pulse grey indicating that it's collecting extra data.

SETTING A PASSCODE

To set up a 4-digit code, scroll to Touch ID & Passcode in Settings (or simply Passcode on an iPhone 5 or older). Tap Simple Passcode, then Turn Passcode On at the top of the screen. To set a more advanced passcode, disable Simple Passcode before tapping Turn Passcode On. You can also generate a randomized password using Wolfram Alpha. Just activate Siri and say "Wolfram password," and it will generate random mixes of numbers and lower- and uppercase letters. If you don't have Touch ID enabled, you can customize how quickly your phone will lock by tapping Require Passcode.

TURN ON FIND MY IPHONE
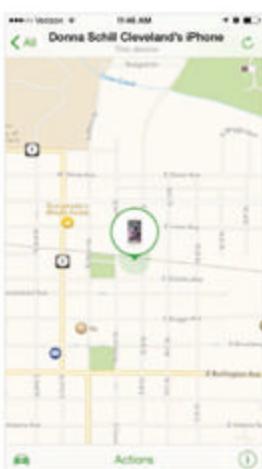
Another security service from Apple is Find My iPhone, which helps you track down a misplaced or stolen device. To enable it, go to Settings > iCloud > Find My iPhone. Then, if you can't find your device, you can sign in to icloud.com or to the app on an iOS device to see the location of your device on a map. Select the device you're looking for and then tap Actions. Here you'll see a few options—tap Play Sound to make your device ring, activate Lost Mode to lock your device and display a message on the screen, or tap Erase iPhone to erase all data from the device. Choose the last option if you've given up your search but want to protect your information. ⏻

MAKING AND RECEIVING CALLS

S ure, your iPhone allows you to do a lot of wonderful things—text, take pictures, play games, surf the web—but making calls is still its most primary function. Here's everything you need to know to start mastering all of your iPhone's most basic call-related features.

MAKING CALLS

To make a call, tap the Phone icon on your Home screen. You can use any of the following options on the bottom row to make a call: Favorites, Recents, Contacts, and Keypad.

Your most frequently called contacts will automatically show up in Favorites. To manually assign a contact to Favorites, tap the Favorites tab and press the + button in the top right corner to select a contact. Specify whether you want the contact's number to be added to Favorites as a voice call, FaceTime audio call, or FaceTime video call. Now you can speed-dial the contacts that you speak to on a regular basis by opening Favorites and selecting their name.

Recents displays a history of calls you've made, answered, or missed, beginning with the most recent. Missed calls show the contact's name or number in red lettering. At the top of the screen, tap the All button to see a full call history or the Missed buttons to see only missed calls. Tap the contact's name or number to call, or tap the lower-case "i" to the right of each for full contact information and call details.

Contacts is your personal phone and address book. You can access it either from the Phone app or from the Contacts app icon on your Home screen. It's organized alphabetically by name—just scroll through and tap the contact you'd like to call. You'll also see a tiny vertical alphabet on the right side of the Contacts screen; you can skip to a certain letter of the alphabet by tapping on the letter rather than having to scroll through letter after letter on your hunt for a certain contact. There's also a Search field at the top of the screen that you can use to quickly locate a contact.

Keypad is what you use to dial a new number. Enter in the digits, and if you'd like to save the number in your contacts for future reference, tap the "+" symbol to add the number to Contacts before pressing the large green Call button.

STORING YOUR CONTACTS

Adding a new contact is simple—open the Contacts app (or the Contacts tab in the Phone app), press the "+" icon, fill in the fields, and tap Done. To edit an existing contact, find the contact and press Edit in the upper right corner, then change the necessary information. You can also delete a contact from the Edit page by scrolling to the bottom, pressing Delete Contact, and verifying. When you're back to a contact's main page, you can choose to send the contact a message, share the contact, or add it to Favorites.

SETTING UP VOICEMAIL
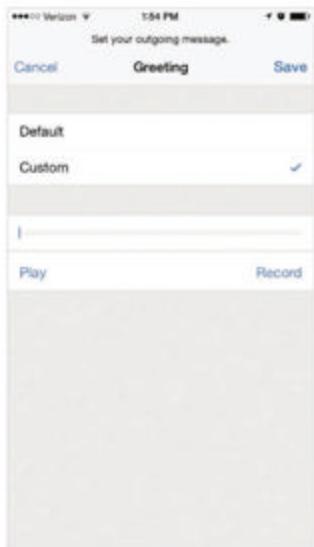
Voicemail, the fifth option on the bottom row of tabs in the Phone app, is where you'll see a list of all your voice messages. Tap one to listen to it. You can also play it on speaker, call back the contact, or delete the message. To record a personal voicemail greeting for others, tap Voicemail and your voicemail inbox will appear in a list. Tap Greeting in the upper left corner, then tap Custom to record your own welcome message. Select Default if you wish to keep the standard greeting provided by your network.

BLOCK & SILENCE CALLS

There may come a time when you want to block a specific user. To do this, tap the "i" button next to their name (if your carrier offers this option) and select Block this Caller. This will also block text messages and FaceTime calls from that contact. To edit your list of blocked callers, go to Settings > Phone > Blocked and tap Edit in the upper right corner. Your iPhone's Do Not Disturb feature is especially handy if you're in a meeting or otherwise busy. To enable this feature, swipe up for Control

Center and tap the small crescent-moon icon. You can also schedule Do Not Disturb for particular times, as well as allow calls from Favorites and enable emergency calls by going to Settings > Do Not Disturb. Or, if you only want to hear potentially urgent calls, enabling the Repeated Calls feature lets a call come through if the caller dials a second time within three minutes.

INCOMING CALLS

When a call comes in, slide your finger left to right to answer or tap Message to automatically send a text message from a list of default options. To create your own custom message, tap Custom. You can change default options by going to Settings > Phone > Respond with Text and replacing them with your preferred text. In addition, when a call comes in, you can tap Remind Me to schedule a reminder to return the call. If you're in a meeting and you need to quickly mute the ringer, press the sleep/wake button or volume control. You can decline the call by quickly pressing the sleep/wake button twice.

HANDLING MULTIPLE CALLS

This feature depends on whether your iPhone is GSM or CDMA. GSM supports up to five calls simultaneously, while CDMA only supports two. When you're on a call, simply tap Add Call to dial up another party. When you tap Add Call, you're taken to Contacts, where you can choose another person. You can also select someone from My Recent Calls and My Favorites or dial via the keypad. Once the person answers, tap Merge Calls, and all three of you will be able to take part in the conversation. If you're on a GSM network, you can repeat this process to add more people to the call.

TALK FACE-TO-FACE

You can call other iPhone and iPad users via FaceTime, whether over Wi-Fi or your cellular data connection. First, be sure you've enabled FaceTime by going to Settings > FaceTime. Then, select the contact you wish to call—either in the Contacts app, Phone app, or FaceTime app—and, next to where it says "FaceTime," tap the video camera icon to start a video call or the phone icon to make an audio call.

MASTERING MESSAGES

People depend on text messaging as a primary means of communication—it's a quick, convenient way to get in touch with your contacts, particularly when you're in a situation where talking on the phone is difficult. Let's take a look at the ins and outs of texting from your iDevice.

THE BASICS OF SENDING A MESSAGE
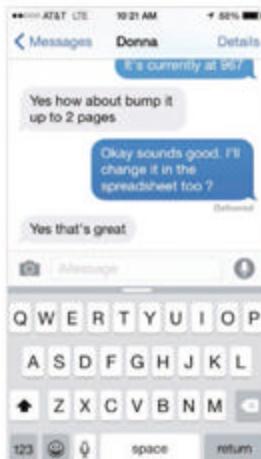
To compose a new message, open the Messages app and tap the pencil-and-paper icon at the top right corner of your screen. Use the keypad or the encircled "+" icon to add one or more recipients to the field at the top, then use the keypad to type your message before hitting Send. A preview of each conversation thread is shown on the Messages app main page. To pick up a conversation where you left off, just tap the message thread and continue texting.

To delete a thread, swipe left over the thread and tap Delete. You can also tap and hold on an individual text, tap More, and then either tap the trash icon to delete the individual message or tap Delete All in the top left corner.

IMESSAGE
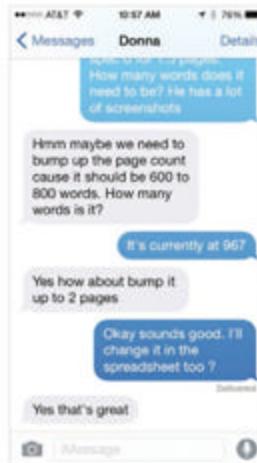
The great thing about Apple's messaging system is that it lets you send free texts between Apple devices. If the text bubbles in your conversation thread are blue, that means you're sending iMessages; regular text messages appear in green. To turn on iMessages, go to Settings > Messages and then toggle iMessage on. You can also notify others of when you've read their messages by toggling on Send Read Receipts.

SENDING PHOTOS AND VIDEOS
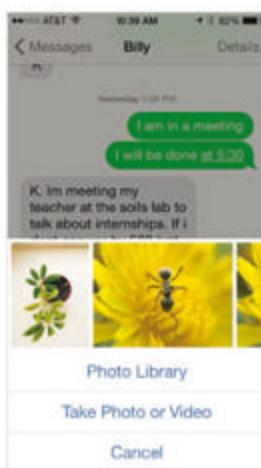
If you want to add a photo or video to your message before sending it, tap the camera icon to the left of the text field. You'll see your most recent pictures lined up in a row; scroll through these photos by sliding your finger left or right and select the shots you want to send by tapping each one individually. You'll also notice two options: Photo Library, which lets you choose any image stored in your Photos app, or Take Photo or Video, which opens the Camera app.

AUDIO MESSAGES
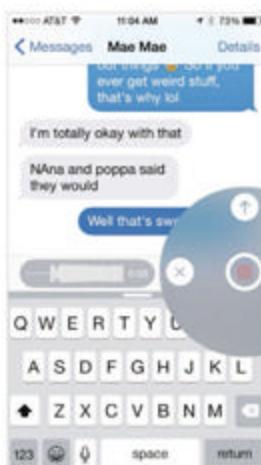
Tap to Talk allows you to send audio messages to fellow iPhone users. You can activate this feature in one of two ways: either lift the phone to your ear and begin speaking while composing a text, or tap and hold the microphone icon to the right of your text-entry box. If you choose the tap-and-hold option, a dial will appear. Lift your finger and press the play button to preview your audio, the arrow to send your recording right away, or the X to delete it.

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS
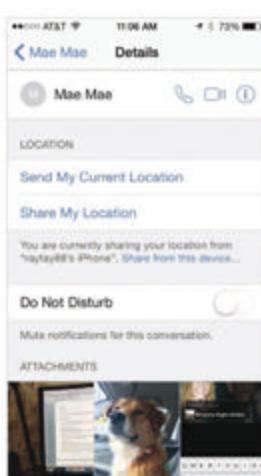
When you open a message, you'll notice Details in the upper right corner. Here you'll find a collection of all the images that you and your contact have shared, as well as the option to mute notifications and send or share your current location. If you've ever been unwillingly subjected to a group text, you understand how useful silencing a conversation can be. Here, you'll see the option to tap Do Not Disturb to no longer receive notifications from the group. If all participants in a group text are

using iMessage on devices running iOS 8, you can also tap Leave this Conversation to exit the thread altogether.

SHORTCUTS, EMOJIS, & KEYBOARDS
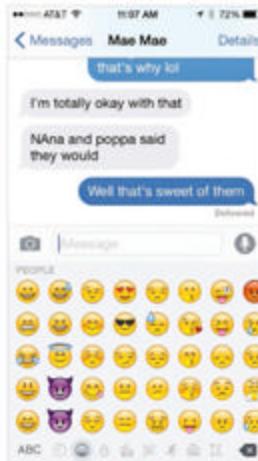
If you find yourself typing the same phrase over and over—your email address in login fields, for example, or "I'll be home in five minutes!"—try creating custom keyboard shortcuts to save some time. Apple already has a couple default ones saved for you, such as "On my way!" for when you type in "omw." To create your own, go to Settings > General > Keyboard > Shortcuts and tap the "+" icon. Next time you're typing a shortcut prompt and the full text appears above, just tap the space bar, and it will insert the full text automatically.

If you'd like to start using Apple's fun emojis in your texts, go to Settings > General > Keyboard > Keyboards > Add New Keyboard, then scroll down the list of languages and select Emoji. Apple also lets you add third-party keyboards in the same manner—simply download a keyboard from the App Store and it will appear in the same list in Settings. Select the one you want, and next time you're using your keyboard, you'll notice a gridded sphere to the left of the space bar; tap it to access your keyboard collection.

TIP: SHARE A CONTACT

You can share contact information via Messages by going to Contacts > Share Contact > Message. Tap the name of the person you would like to share your contact with and then press send.

FONT & APPEARANCE

If you struggle to read small text, bump up the size by going to Settings > Display & Brightness, selecting Text Size, and dragging the slider to the right. You can also improve readability by making your text bold. Go to Settings > General > Accessibility, and then toggle Bold Text On. Once you've restarted your iPhone, all of the words on your device will show up thicker and darker. You can also invert the colors on your iDevice in Accessibility by toggling on Invert Colors. It's a fun look to give a try, and you can easily turn it off with a triple-click. ⏻

MANAGING YOUR DATA & MEDIA

BY JIM KARPEN

Contacts, calendars, emails, text messages, photos, music, videos, apps—your personal data and media are important to you. And if you're like most people, you've accumulated quite a lot of it. Of course, you want to make sure you're managing it properly so that if something happens to your iPhone or computer, all your media and data are still available to you. You have two main options for managing your data and media: iTunes and iCloud. In this article, we'll guide you through both approaches to backing up your data and managing your music and photos.

SYNCING AND BACKING UP

TO TETHER OR NOT TO TETHER

iTunes is a legacy of the iPod era dating back to 2001, when you managed your music by connecting your iPod to your computer. You used the iTunes software to purchase or trans-fer music to your iPod, create playlists, and listen to music. With the coming of the iPhone and iPad and the arrival of other offerings such as movies, e-books, and apps, the role of iTunes has steadily expanded.

Eventually, Apple founder Steve Jobs didn't like the idea of mobile devices being tethered to a desktop computer. So in 2010, he ushered in the "post-PC era" by introducing iCloud. With iCloud, Apple made it possible to back up all your personal data and media without needing to physically connect to a computer. However, iTunes remains a useful option, especially for those who prefer to back up their devices manually.

BACKING UP YOUR DATA & MEDIA VIA ITUNES

If you don't already have the iTunes software installed on your computer, you can download it at apple.com/itunes. You'll need to log in with your Apple ID or create an account.

To back up your device, connect it to your computer with a cable and launch iTunes on your desktop. An icon for your iPhone or iPad should appear at the upper left corner of the screen.
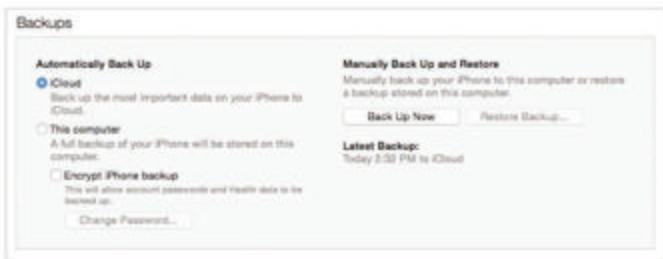
Clicking the icon will bring up a new window with options for backing up. (If you don't see that window, double check that you've selected Summary under the Settings menu on the left.) Under Backups, you'll have the option to automatically back up via iCloud or "This computer" using iTunes.

If you prefer iTunes, select "This computer" to automatically back up your device every time you connect it to your computer. Even if you choose to use iCloud for automatic backups, you can still manually back up data to your computer by selecting Back Up Now. If you need to restore a backup, click Restore Backup.

GETTING STARTED WITH ICLOUD

Backing up with iCloud can be very convenient, as it occurs automatically without your input. It doesn't involve creating a special iCloud account either; just log in with your Apple ID in the iCloud settings on all the devices across which you want to sync content.

On your iOS devices, go to Settings > iCloud and type in your Apple ID and your password. If you don't have an Apple ID, select "Create a new Apple ID." Once signed in, you'll see a list of functions you can keep in sync amongst your devices.

To log in to iCloud on a Mac, go to System Preferences > iCloud and sign in with your Apple ID and password. Again, select those services you'd like to keep in sync. To log in to iCloud on a PC, download the iCloud Control Panel for Windows at apple.com/icloud/setup/pc.html.

To access your iCloud information from any Internet-connected computer, go to icloud.com, and sign in with your Apple ID.

You get 5 GB of storage for free. You can pay for more storage starting at $0.99 per month for an additional 20 GB. If you find yourself bumping up against the 5 GB limit and aren't inclined to pay for more storage, you can manage your storage by going to Settings > iCloud > Storage > Manage Storage on your iPhone or iPad to see what apps and services are taking up the most space.

BACKING UP YOUR DATA & MEDIA VIA ICLOUD
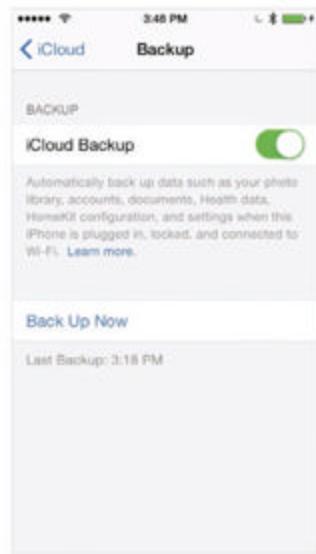
Once you've logged in to iCloud on your devices, your data and media are automatically synced to iCloud. If you add a new contact, for example, it automatically gets added to iCloud.

Syncing is different from backing up, however. Syncing doesn't back up your settings, and typically backs up photos to iCloud only when you're connected to a Wi-Fi network.

Backups, on the other hand, copy everything on your device, including the settings. If something happens to your iPhone or iPad or you decide to buy a new one, restoring from a full backup will leave it exactly the way it had been. Having a full and recent backup is the fastest way to restore all your data, media, and settings.

For convenience, you can set your iPhone or iPad to automatically back up via iCloud when your device is connected to a Wi-Fi network, plugged in, and locked. To do so, go to Settings > iCloud > Backup, and turn on iCloud Backup.

After turning on iCloud Backup, you'll notice a new option appear: Back Up Now, which allows you to back up immediately rather than wait for the right conditions for an automatic backup to occur.

COLLECTING MUSIC

MANAGING YOUR MUSIC WITH ITUNES

You likely have a large collection of music files. The challenge, of course, is to have access to all your favorite music without taking up all the storage on your device.

You'll find that iTunes offers two solutions: selectively sync songs or playlists to your device or use iTunes Match to upload your music to iCloud so that your entire collection is available on all your devices. If you opt for the former, you can first create playlists in the iTunes software on your computer.

Go to View > Music to see your music collection on your computer, and then go to File > New > Playlist. A new window will appear. Enter a name for your Playlist, and then add songs or audio files to it by clicking "Add To…" at the top right. Drag and drop albums or songs into the Playlist bar that appears at the right. Once you've created Playlists for the music that you want to have on your iPhone or iPad, connect your device to your computer and sync it.

When you connect your device, click on Music in the left-hand menu under settings, and select Sync Music. Indicate whether you want to sync your entire collection to your iPhone or iPad or selected Playlists, artists, albums, and genres. In order to save storage space, you'll want to go with selected items. Once you've made your selection, click Apply at the bottom right of the screen.

MANAGING YOUR MUSIC WITH ITUNES MATCH & ICLOUD
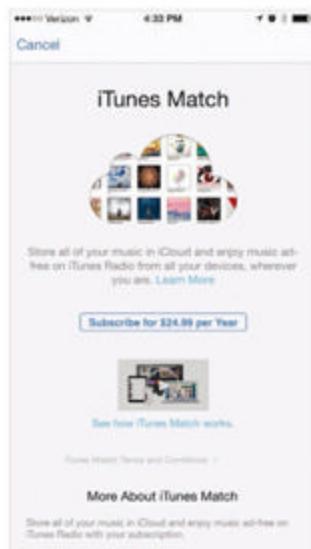
If you want it all— having all of your music available to you without filling up space on your device, then iTunes Match is a great solution. It costs $24.99 per year and lets you upload all your music to iCloud. Even if you have music that you downloaded illegally, this service accepts it and will often give you a better quality recording in place of a low-quality MP3 file.

To take advantage of this service, go to Music in your iPhone settings and tap Subscribe to iTunes Match. Then type in your Apple ID and password and click Subscribe.

Once that process is complete, a new switch will appear that says Show All Music. If you tap the On button, then all of the music associated with your iTunes Match account will appear in your Music app. A small iCloud icon will appear next to tracks that are in your iTunes library but haven't been downloaded to your device. If you have access to Wi-Fi or a cellular network, you can tap the icon next to the song or album to download it from the cloud to your iPhone. If you tap the Off button for Show All Music, then your Music app will list only the tracks that are currently on your device.

LISTENING TO MUSIC VIA ITUNES RADIO

Apple's music-streaming service offers another way to listen to music on your iDevice. Like Pandora, iTunes Radio lets you create your own radio stations and customize them to stream the kind of music you like best. However, you're unable to request specific songs. (Apple is also expected to launch a subscription service that allows you to pay a monthly fee and request any specific song or album.)

To use iTunes Radio, open the Music app and select Radio at the bottom left. You can peruse Apple's Featured Stations or tap New under My Stations to search different genres.

To create your own station, simply enter an artist, genre, or song in the search bar at the top. As you do so, a listing of related music will appear on the screen. Tap an individual artist or song to create your own station inspired by your selection.

To customize your station, tap on the star icon to teach your station your preferences. If you like what's playing, you can tap "Play More Like This." If you don't, tap "Never Play This Song." (Note: These options don't appear if you're listening to a preset station from Apple.) While you can skip a song by tapping the double-right arrow, iTunes Radio limits you to six skips per hour.

STORING PHOTOS AND VIDEOS

MANAGING YOUR PHOTOS WITH ICLOUD PHOTO LIBRARY

One of the major benefits of iOS 8.1 and later is iCloud Photo Library. All your photos can now live in the cloud rather than being tied to a particular device, and any change you make to a photo or video on one device is carried over to the others.

This comes with the additional benefit of allowing you to free up space on your devices. If you enable iCloud Photo Library, you can choose to store only optimized versions of your photos and videos on your iPhone or iPad. The full-resolution versions are kept in the cloud. Versions that are less storage-intensive and that are perfectly suited to the size and resolution of your iPhone or iPad are stored on your device. This can save you gigabytes of storage space. And any time you want, you can download the full-resolution version.

MANAGING YOUR PHOTOS WITH ITUNES

While iCloud Photo Library has generally replaced iTunes photo syncing, you can still opt for the latter. To do so, make sure iCloud Photo Library is turned off on your device. Go to Settings > iCloud > Photos > iCloud Photo Library and toggle it off. You'll have the option to download or remove previously synced photos and videos before you can sync using iTunes.

To sync photos via iTunes, connect your device to your computer, boot up iTunes, and click the icon for your iPhone or iPad. Select Photos from the menu on the left, check the box next to Sync Photos, and then select whether you want to sync all photos or selected albums, events, and faces.

As you can see, you have a wide range of options regarding managing your data and media. In the end, iCloud may be the simplest option. While it may entail paying for more storage, once it's set up, it's mostly automatic. ⏻

To turn on iCloud Photo Library and optimize storage on your device, go to Settings > iCloud > Photos and enable iCloud Photo Library. If you're connected to a Wi-Fi network, your device will immediately begin uploading and storing your entire photo and video library in the cloud.

On that same screen, you'll see the option to Optimize iPhone Storage, meaning that as each photo or video is uploaded, a version is saved on your device that takes less storage. If you decide you want to have the full versions of all photos and videos on your iPhone or iPad, simply select Download and Keep Originals.

Of course, storing your photos in iCloud may eventually require you to pay to increase your iCloud storage once you've gone through the 5 GB of free space. Options range from $0.99 per month for 20 GB to $19.99 for 1 TB.

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HOW TO

SURF THE WEB WITH SAFARI

S afari, Apple's built-in mobile browser, allows you to surf the web, make online purchases, and save web-pages directly from your iPhone. This is an incredibly useful tool if you're in a pinch and find that you need to look something up online.

USING THE SMART SEARCH FIELD
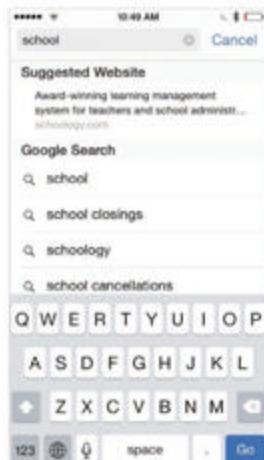
Type URLs and search terms in Safari's search bar located at the top of a webpage or new tab. As you type, a dropdown menu of search results will appear, which you can tap to select. You can also search for words on your current page by typing them in the search bar and then scrolling down the dropdown menu until you see "On This Page." The first instance will be highlighted in yellow. At the lower left, you'll see two arrows, which you can use to view other matches.

TIP: RECOVER DELETED TABS

If you accidently close a tab that you didn't intend to—don't panic! Pressing down on the "+" symbol will reveal a list of your most recently deleted tabs, which you can launch once again by selecting them.

NAVIGATING PAGES

The menu bar at the bottom of the page includes the following buttons: back, forward, share, bookmarks, and tabs. The search bar and menu disappear as you begin to scroll down. To make them reappear, just scroll up. Swiping left or right takes you back or forward in your search history. To return to the top of the page, just tap the top of the screen. To open a new tab, tap the stacked-pages icon in the menu bar, and tap the "+" button that appears in the menu. Tap the Private button on the bottom left to browse the web without saving any history, searches, passwords, or field entries. To close a page, tap the tab icon and swipe left on the page you wish to close or tap the "x" in its top left corner.

SHARING AND SAVING CONTENT
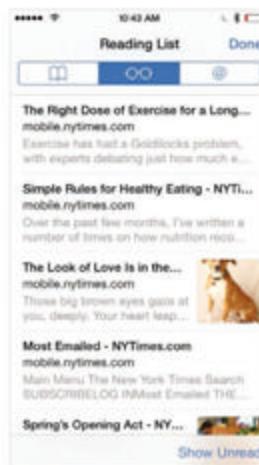
If you'd like to share an article with a friend or save it to read later, tap the Share icon to reveal a variety of options. To view saved articles, tap the open-book icon in the menu bar.

Under Bookmarks, you'll see your search history and book-marks (which by default are filed under Favorites). Tap the reading-glasses tab to access your Reading List and the @ tab for links that have been shared with you.

AUTOFILL & ICLOUD KEYCHAIN

AutoFill and iCloud Keychain work together so that Safari remembers your name, passwords, and credit card details, and keeps that information synced across your Apple devices. To set it up, go to Settings > Safari, tap Passwords & AutoFill, and enable all of the toggle bars. Under My Info, select your contact from the list. Enter in your credit card information, and tap Done to save. Next, go back to Settings, tap iCloud, and turn on the Keychain toggle. Next time you fill out a web form in Safari, tap AutoFill at the top of the keyboard to automatically fill in your stored information. ⏻

HOW TO

CARING FOR YOUR DEVICE

I f you don't start taking care of your iPhone and iPad now, chances are you'll end up with some problems down the road. These tips will ensure that you and your beloved iDevice get the most out of your time together.

BATTERY MAINTENANCE
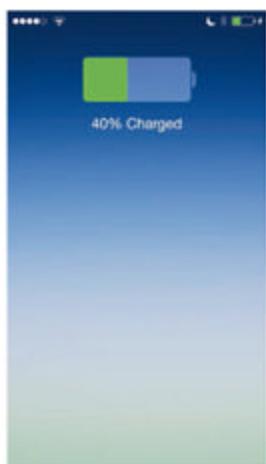
For long-term maintenance, avoid exposing your iPad or iPhone to temperatures higher than 95 degrees Fahrenheit, since this can permanently damage your battery. You can conserve energy by turning down the brightness on your display or turning on Auto-Brightness by going to Settings > Display & Brightness. Also consider disabling the 3D parallax effect Apple introduced in iOS 7 by going to Settings > General > Accessibility > Reduce Motion. If you're not in range of a Wi-Fi network, turning off Wi-Fi in Settings makes it so your device is not constantly looking for an available hotspot.

APPS AND UPDATES

Outdated software can occasionally cause issues with your iDevice, so if you are noticing problems, consider updating to the latest version of iOS by going to Settings > General > Software Update and checking for any available updates. However, if you have an older iPhone model such as the 4s, then choosing to update isn't always the best decision, as updating has been known to cause some serious lagging issues. If you would like to continue using your device, then opt out of the usual updates.

UNFORESEEN ACCIDENTS

If you drop your iPhone in water, power it off and don't turn it on or charge it again until it is completely dry. To remove any trace of moisture, wipe the phone down with an absorbent cloth and then place it in a jar of uncooked white rice for a couple of days. Once it's dry, try turning it back on. With any luck, your device should work just fine! Also consider purchasing a protective case and screen protector to ensure that you don't crack or scratch your screen the next time you drop it. ⏻

maximmmmum/shutterstock

UNDERSTANDING SIRI

Apple's voice-activated digital assistant has evolved since it debuted with iOS 5. Siri is great at increasing your productivity and providing quick answers to your questions. Although Siri may take some getting used to at first, once you learn the basics, you'll wonder how you ever got by without it.

Go to Settings > General > Siri and toggle Siri on. The standard way to activate Siri is to press and hold the Home button until you hear two beeps in rapid succession. As you speak a command, a horizontal line will begin to ripple to indicate Siri is listening to you. From Settings, you can also select your language of choice, adjust voice gender, determine when you want voice feedback, and enter your personal contact information. In Settings, you can select Allow "Hey Siri" to summon your assistant hands-free (only when connected to a power source). Once enabled, simply say "Hey Siri" followed by your question or request, and Siri will respond, even if your phone was previously in a sleep state.

The easiest way to learn all of Siri's capabilities is to read its built-in user guide by pressing the "?" icon at the bottom of Siri's greeting screen. Here you'll find a comprehensive list of commands Siri recognizes, from controlling Settings and iTunes Radio to booking tickets, making dinner reservations, and learning movie times. You can even use Siri to control your basic settings, such as dimming the brightness of your screen, turning on Airplane Mode, or turning down the ringer volume.

SETTING REMINDERS

This is one of our favorite Siri features. If you have Location Services on, you can set location-based reminders, such as "Remind me to grab milk at the grocery store." You can also set recurring reminders, like "Remind me to feed the cats every day at 8 a.m."

TIP: YOU CAN EDIT SIRI

If Siri misunderstands you, you can edit your request by typing instead of speaking. Just swipe down after Siri displays your query, and select the "tap to edit" option to summon the keyboard.

FINDING SPECIFIC LOCATIONS

When you want to call or visit a business you don't already have in your Contacts, Siri will look for locations by that name that are close to you, and will offer to give you directions or to call the establishment.

MAKING APPOINTMENTS

Siri can send appointment invitations to your Contacts. For example, if I tell Siri to "Schedule a marketing meeting next Thursday at 11 a.m. with Donna Cleveland," Donna will receive an invite.

MAKING SIRI YOUR DJ

Siri is fully integrated with Apple's streaming Internet radio service iTunes Radio, so you can start up a favorite station, skip and buy songs, or ask Siri to "play more like this," all with voice command.

FIRST-NAME BASIS

Fill Siri in on your relationships to your contacts by saying, for example, "Crystal is my sister." Siri stores that information so you can be more conversational in your commands, such as telling Siri, "Text my sister that I'll be five minutes late." You should also teach Siri who you are. Create a contact card for yourself in Contacts, making sure to specify your home and work addresses so you can set location-based reminders. Then go to Settings > General > Siri, tap My Info, and select your name from your contact list. ⏻

MAKE PAYMENTS WITH APPLE PAY

A pple's contactless payment system lets you buy goods and services without bringing your wallet with you.

DEVICES THAT SUPPORT APPLE PAY

Different iOS devices have varying levels of Apple Pay capabilities. To make transactions in brick-and-mortar stores, you'll need one of the following devices with built-in Near Field Communication (NFC) components: an iPhone 6 or 6 Plus running iOS 8.1 or later or an Apple Watch paired with an iPhone 5 or later running iOS 8.2 or later. You can use Apple Pay within apps using Touch ID with the iPad Air 2 and iPad mini 3.

SET UP APPLE PAY IN PASSBOOK

Apple Pay is built in to the Passbook app. To protect your credit card information, Apple requires that you set up Touch ID or a passcode (see pg. 40 for instructions) before getting started with Apple Pay. Next, open Passbook on your phone and tap the + symbol next to Apple Pay. On your iPad, go to Settings > Passbook & Apple Pay and tap Add Credit or Debit Card. Follow the on-screen prompts to confirm a card already associated with your Apple ID or to enter a new one. Each

bank will use different security measures, but once yours has verified your account, you'll be ready to go.

CHECKING OUT WITH APPLE PAY

While thousands of stores accept Apple Pay, finding them takes a little practice. Look for a wireless or Apple Pay symbol at the checkout terminal or simply ask a staff member if the store accepts Apple Pay. You can also download the **Mastercard Nearby** app (free) and select Contactless during setup to see which merchants accept mobile payments near you. To make a transaction, hold your iPhone within an inch of the reader while pressing your finger to the Touch ID sensor. No need to wake up your phone or launch Passbook—your phone will start the process once it detects the reader. Choose credit card on the terminal screen to complete the payment.

PAY WITH APPLE WATCH

A nice perk of using Apple Pay on your watch is that it's a standalone feature, meaning the watch stores the necessary information to make transactions without having your iPhone nearby. Regardless of whether you're using Apple Pay on your iPhone, you'll need to set up your cards with the watch before you get started.

Open the Apple Watch app on your iPhone, tap My Watch > Passbook & Apple Pay, and then follow the on-screen instructions. Once you've verified your card with the bank, you'll receive a notification on your watch informing you that Apple Pay is ready to go. To make a payment, just double-tap the side button on your watch and hold it to the contactless reader. ⏻

HOW TO

WORKING WITH MULTIPLE DEVICES

W ith each software update, Apple has found new ways for your Mac, iPhone, iPad, and Apple Watch to work together to help you achieve your goals.

HANDOFF

With Handoff, you can complete tasks on whatever device is most convenient to you at the moment, letting you start an email on your Mac, for instance, and finish writing it on your iPhone. Apple's built-in apps that support Handoff include Mail, Safari, Pages, Numbers, Keynote, Maps, Messages, Reminders, Calendar, Contacts, and some third-party apps.

To use Handoff with iOS, you must have a recent-model iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch running iOS 8 or later. Compatible desktop computers include a 2013 or later Mac Pro, or a 2012 or later MacBook Air, MacBook Pro, Mac mini, or iMac running OS X Yosemite. Your devices must be logged in to the same iCloud account, connected to the same Wi-Fi network, and within Bluetooth range of one another (about 30 feet).

When you're writing a text message or looking something up in Safari on your iPhone, an icon will appear in the dock on your Mac indicating that you're using a Handoff-compatible app. Tap the icon in the dock to resume using the app on your desktop computer. Likewise, when you're writing a text on your Mac, you'll see a Messages icon appear on the lower left side of your iPhone's lock screen. Swipe up on the icon to resume the text message. If your iPhone is unlocked, you can double-press the Home button to access the Handoff option in the multitasking pane (as pictured on left.)

You can also make calls on your Mac as long as your iPhone is on the same Wi-Fi network. Just select a friend in Contacts on your Mac and initiate the call.

You can control whether you have Handoff enabled on your iPhone in Settings > General > Handoff & Suggested Apps and on your Mac in System Preferences > General > Allow Handoff.

HANDOFF WITH APPLE WATCH

If you make a Siri request with Apple Watch that it can't fulfill, it will shoot the request to your iPhone. When you see an app icon in the lower-left corner of your iPhone screen, swipe up to use the requested app or service.

USING AIRDROP

With Apple's latest software upgrades, the company introduced an improved AirDrop, letting you transfer files between Macs and iOS devices. To do this, you must have a 2012 model or later Mac running OS X Yosemite and an iPhone, iPad, or iPod touch with Lightning connector running iOS 7 or later.

To start sending and receiving files with AirDrop, enable Wi-Fi and Bluetooth on both your devices and make sure they're within range, but not necessarily on the same Wi-Fi network. On your iDevice, swipe up for Control Center, turn on AirDrop, and choose to let yourself be seen by Everyone or Contacts Only. Next time you have a file you'd like to share, tap the Share icon and choose AirDrop from the list of options.

On your Mac, open the Finder window and choose AirDrop in the sidebar and your device will appear in the window. Drag and drop a file onto your device's icon in the window. Note that if the iPhone or iPad is locked, it won't show up in the Mac finder. If you're receiving a file from someone else, a notification will pop up on your phone, giving you the option to either Decline or Accept the incoming file. If you send a file to one of your own devices logged into the same iCloud account, the file will save automatically. ⏻

IPHONE 6 PLUS SPECIAL FEATURES

BY SIVA OM

W hile the most distinctive features of the iPhone 6 Plus are its incredibly large screen, enhanced Retina HD display, and advanced camera, Apple's latest flagship device also has impressive software features to explore.
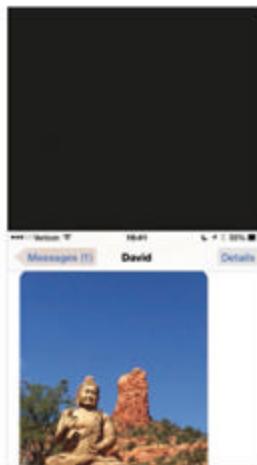
NAVIGATING LANDSCAPE MODE

A special feature of the device is the extra functionality it offers in landscape mode, displaying many of the iPhone's built-in apps with split-screen layouts. In Mail and Messages, for instance, the inbox appears on the left side and content appears on the right. When typing, you'll also notice new cursor control keys, cut and paste keys, and even a key that lets you select bold, italic, or underlined font styles.

When using this feature in a compatible app, you'll typically see a small, double arrow icon in the upper left corner that lets you choose between split-screen or full-screen mode. When using Apple's Calendar app in landscape mode, both the Month and Day views will display your general scheduling information on the left side and event-specific details on the right side.

NOTHING IS UNREACHABLE

Another software tweak that's exclusive to the iPhone 6 and 6 Plus is Reachability, Apple's clever solution for navigat-

ing the devices' larger screen while in portrait orientation. Activating Reachability simply requires a soft double tap of the Home button. Keep in mind, you're not depressing the Home button but rather using a series of two feather-light taps. The iPhone's screen will instantly shift downward, making anything on the screen within reach, even when using the 6 or 6 Plus one-handed.

THE BIGGER PICTURE

If you enjoy taking photos and videos, you'll appreciate Apple's new camera features, most notably Optical Image Stabilization and the option to shoot videos at 60 frames per second (FPS) as opposed to the standard 30 FPS. To select this option, go to Settings > Photo & Camera, and toggle on Record Video at 60 FPS. Although shooting video at 60 FPS produces smoother, higher quality videos, remember that it also eats up more of your iPhone's precious storage space. This is an important consideration if you don't have a 6 Plus with a large storage capacity. ⏻

APPLE WATCH BASICS

BY SARAH KINGSBURY & TODD BERNHARD

Congratulations! After months of patiently waiting for your Apple Watch to arrive at your doorstep, it's finally on your wrist—but now what? Here's everything you need to know, from managing your apps to customizing your watch face.
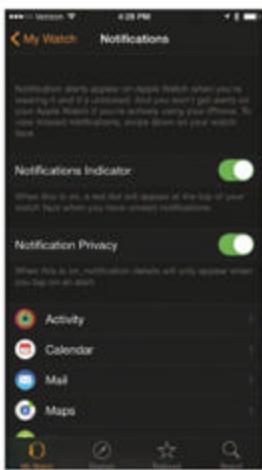
THE PERFECT PAIR

First thing's first, you'll need to pair your new Apple Watch with your iPhone. To do this, make sure that you are running iOS 8.2 or later and that your iPhone is no older than an iPhone 5. Make sure to turn on Bluetooth on your iPhone, then launch the Apple Watch app and tap Start Pairing. A yellow box will appear on the screen; center it over an animation on your Apple Watch that embeds its own unique identifier. Once it's paired, tap Set Up as New Apple Watch.

USING THE APPLE WATCH IPHONE APP

So other than pairing your devices, what does the Apple Watch app do? Well, a lot of things, actually. The Apple Watch app lets you go in-depth with your wearable, allowing you to customize some of its most important settings, such as app layout, notifications, and glances. You can also watch how-to videos that explain its different features under Explore, and find and download compatible apps under Featured.

NOTIFICATIONS

Notifications are a convenient way to receive messages and alerts directly to your Apple Watch—but it's up to you to decide what information gets relayed. Toggle Notifications Indicator on if you would like a red dot to appear on your watch face whenever you have unread notifications. The Notifications Privacy feature lets you block notification details from appearing on your watch face. Tap on individual apps to customize their notifications. The Activities app lets you opt to receive reminders to stand up, progress updates, and weekly summaries of your activity. All other apps will let you choose whether to mirror that app's iPhone notifications or to customize them for your watch.

APP LAYOUT AND GLANCES

You can customize the position of app icons on the watch screen in the Apple Watch app on your iPhone by tapping App Layout and holding and dragging apps into their desired position.

The Apple Watch's Glances view gives you quick access to your most important apps. But Glances become significantly less useful if you have to swipe through 20 of them to get to what you want. To add an app to your Glances, tap the green plus sign next to any app not currently included. To remove an app, tap the red minus sign next to the apps listed at the top. To reorder your app Glances or move an app in or out of the list of included apps, press the three horizontal bars to the right of the app name and drag it where you want it to appear.

GENERAL

Under General, you'll be able to choose your wrist orientation, access the watch's accessibility features, turn on Handoff, and activate Wrist Detection (which locks your watch when you're not wearing it). Tapping on Automatic Downloads lets you enable automatic downloading of all Apple Watch-compatible apps to your watch. Otherwise, scroll down to the bottom of the My Watch view to see a list of all your Apple Watch apps. Tap on individual apps in order to customize their watch settings, including whether an app appears on your watch or not.

NAVIGATING YOUR APPLE WATCH

Just like the iPhone, your Apple Watch has a touch-capacitive screen that you can navigate via swipes and taps. Additionally, there's Force Touch, which reveals additional controls when you press firmly on the screen.

There are also two buttons on your watch: the Digital Crown and the Side button. To access the Home screen on your watch, press the digital crown once. The side button not only lets you turn on and off the watch by pressing and holding, but it also lets you access a wheel of up to 12 friends with a single tap and Apple Pay with a double tap (see pg. 53 for more on Apple Pay).

The Digital Crown is like the Home button on your iPhone, which you can press to both activate your watch and return to your Home screen. You can also use it to scroll and zoom while in apps, or to activate Siri by pressing and holding the crown.

ACCESSING NOTIFICATIONS

Once you've activated your watch, you can view your notifications by swiping down from the top of the screen. Swipe up and down or turn the digital crown to scroll through your notifications. Tap on individual notifications to take action.

ACCESSING GLANCES

To view Glances on your watch, swipe up from the watch face to access information summaries from each of your fa-vorite apps. Navigate through the Glances by swiping left or right. Tap on a Glance to open the associated app.

CHOOSING & CUSTOMIZING YOUR WATCH FACE

Make the Apple Watch face look just the way you like using Force Touch. Press and hold the current watch face to see a side-scrolling list of your choices. A Customize button that appears below your watch face lets you choose what information, color, or visual you wish to include. Tap the area you wish to adjust, then scroll through the options using the digital crown.

SETTING UP ACTIVITY & WORKOUT APPS

Among other things, the Apple Watch is also an impressive health and fitness tracker, monitoring everything from heart rate to calories burned to steps taken. There are two fitness-related apps on your watch: the Activity app and the Workout app. While the Activity app keeps track of three general activity metrics—movement, exercise, and time spent standing—the Workout app logs your fitness, including real-time stats on your pace and distance.

To set up the Activity app, open it and tap Get Started. Enter your personal information, turn the dial to set it, and then tap Start Moving. To monitor an exercise session, open the Workout app and select the activity you will be participating in. Swipe left or right to choose a goal—whether it's burning calories or running a certain distance—and then use the Digital Crown to set a number. When you are ready, tap Start.

To view your daily stats, launch the Activity app and swipe through your various activities. To see your progress over a longer period of time, launch the Activity app on your iPhone. ⏻

HOW TO

IPHONEOGRAPHY CRASH COURSE

BY RHEANNE SCHLEE
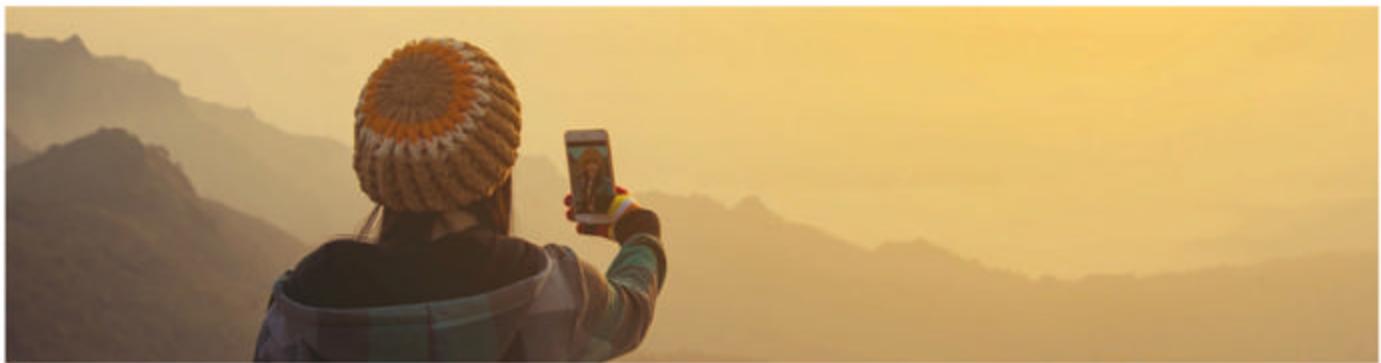
We all love taking pictures and capturing special moments, and thanks to our iPhones, doing so is now easier than ever. Whether you're casually snapping shots with your friends or orchestrating elaborate photo shoots, these steps will help you master your iPhone's camera and start taking beautiful pictures in no time.

TAKE BETTER PHOTOS

Lock your focus and exposure by pressing and holding the screen over your subject until the yellow square pulses and you see the words AE/AF Lock.

Apply filters in real-time by tapping the overlapping circle icon.

Get closer to your subject by using the sliding bar zoom.

To begin, tap the Camera icon or swipe up from the camera symbol on your lock screen. Switch between the front and back camera instantaneously by tapping the camera-and-arrow outline in the top right corner. If you want to deviate from the iPhone's standard picture-taking mode, swipe right or left in the viewfinder to reveal more options, such as panoramic or square-cropped photos, as well as options for shooting video—including time-lapse and slo-mo. To capture a photo, tap the white circle below the viewfinder or press the volume up/down button. You'll notice a preview box in the lower left corner; tap it to view your recently captured shots.

When in video mode, tap the red circle to record. The video duration will play at the top; tap the red button again to stop recording. You can also take pictures while recording by pressing the white circle on the bottom left of the screen, and view both your videos and pictures in the All Photos album.

FILTERS

Apple's filters are a fast way to give your shot a different look. You can apply one of eight filter options in real time or after the fact by tapping the overlapping circle icon. For a wider ranger of more sophisticated filters, try **VSCO Cam** (free).

ZOOM

To zoom, place two fingers on the screen and spread them apart. Doing so will bring up a bar: slide right to zoom in, left to zoom out. Remember, zooming in on your subject tends to compromise quality, so try moving closer whenever possible.

FOCUS & EXPOSURE

The camera automatically adjusts the focus and exposure on your subject, framing it with a yellow square, but when automatic focus and exposure fail, you can manually select your subject. To do this, tap the part of the screen that you want to focus on. A vertical line with a sun will appear alongside your focus box. When you see this, swipe up to lighten your image; swipe down to darken it.

If you'd like to play with depth of field and lighting, you can also manually set and lock your focus and exposure. Tap the screen to manually choose your subject; to lock it there, press and hold until the yellow square pulses and AE/AF Lock appears on the screen. This tool is useful for artistic effects or to help counteract a backlit scene.

HDR & FLASH

Flash is another tool you can use to correct low-lit or backlit scenes. Tap the upper left corner to adjust your flash to Auto, On, or Off. You can also try HDR (High Dynamic Range) mode, which compiles three different exposures, recovering detail in dark as well as light parts of an image.

HDR works best for high-contrast landscape scenes. To begin using, tap HDR On at the top of the screen or HDR Auto to let your device control the setting. When HDR is enabled, you can save both regularly exposed and HDR versions of shots to your Photos app by going to Settings > Photos & Camera and toggling Keep Normal Photo on.

SELF-TIMER

You'll also notice a timer icon at the top of your screen that lets you set up your shot and get in the frame before the picture's taken. When you tap on the icon, you'll be able to choose between a 3- or a 10-second timer. Once you select the time you prefer, tap the shutter to begin the countdown.

BURST MODE

To take multiple shots in Burst Mode, tap and hold the shutter button in the Camera app to capture 10 frames per second. A counter will pop up, letting you know how many photos you've taken so far. Your burst images will then be clustered together and can be identified by an icon reading "Burst" at the top left of the image. You can choose the images you would like to keep by tapping Select and checking off the images you like. When you tap Done, you'll be asked whether you would like to Keep Everything or Keep Only Favorites. We suggest keeping only your favorites, as burst images take up a lot of space.

TIP: TAKE A SCREENSHOT

Have something amusing on your screen you want to share? Simply press the On/Off and Home button simultaneously to capture a screenshot. As you release, you'll see a white flash and hear a shutter sound, signifying that you've successfully saved the image to the Photos app.

ORGANIZE & EDIT YOUR MEDIA
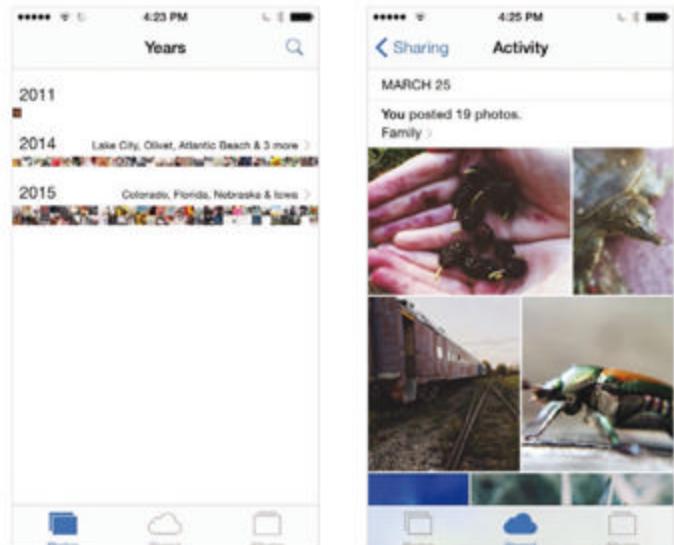
The Photos app automatically files your images using time and place and organizes them into Years, Collections, and Moments.

If you enable iCloud Photo Sharing in your device Settings, you can exchange pictures and videos with friends in the Shared tab of your Photos app.

To start viewing the images you've taken, head over to the Photos app, where you can organize and tweak your pictures and videos. On the bottom, you'll see a tab called Photos, which automatically files your images using time and place

and organizes them into Years, Collections, and Moments. Tap a Year to see the Collections within; tap a Collection to see the Moments within. To see where you took your shots, tap the location name by the group of photos and you'll see thumbnails of photos on a map.

You'll also see a tab called Albums, which includes All Photos, Favorites, Bursts, Videos, Recently Deleted, and any other albums you've created or from third-party photo editing apps. All Photos is responsible for storing all the photos and videos you've taken, while your Favorites album is filled with all of the images you've "favorited" by tapping the heart-shaped symbol below each photo and video. Your Recently Deleted folder is especially useful. Any image you delete sits in this album for up to 30 days, so if you accidently delete one of your favorite shots—no worries! You can restore deleted items by selecting the images you'd like to recover and then tapping Recover at the lower right.
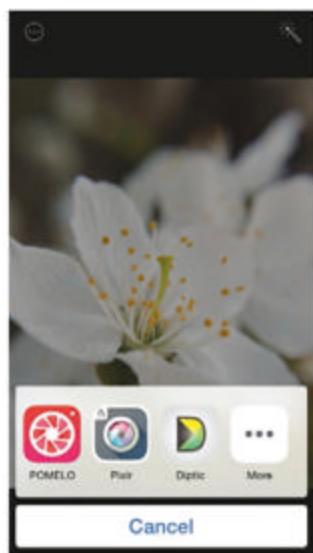
HIDING PHOTOS

To hide private photos, simply tap and hold on any photo and a pop-up will appear, giving you the option to either Copy or Hide your photo. Your hidden items will no longer appear in your Years, Collections, or Moments, but they will still be visible in your All Photos and Hidden albums.

SEARCH PHOTOS

To search your images, go to Photos and tap the search icon. Then enter the time, location (if you have location tracking enabled), or album name corresponding to the photo you're looking for into the search field. For instance, if you type "home," a collection of all the photos you've taken at your home address will pop up.

SHARING

When viewing a photo or video, tap the upward-arrow icon for sharing options that let you text, email, tweet, AirDrop, or post to Facebook. You can also share images to your third-party apps by tapping More and enabling your apps of choice. To send multiple images, first tap Select at the top right of an image grouping, then tap the photos you'd like to include.

You can also use iCloud Photo Sharing to exchange photos and videos with friends and family right within the Photos app. To get started, go to Settings, Photos & Camera, and turn on iCloud

Access third-party editing apps directly from the Photos app.

Photo Sharing. In the Photos app, select images you'd like to share, tap the Share button, and press iCloud Photo Sharing. Title your stream and add a note in the Comment field. Next, select contacts with whom you'd like to share your album. Whoever you invite will be able to view and add images, videos, and comments in the Shared tab along the bottom of the Photos app.

And don't worry, your non-iUser friends don't have to miss out on all the fun. You can send them links to a view-only website of your stream by opening your stream, tapping the People tab at the bottom, and turning on the Public Website option. From there, press Share Link to text, email, tweet, or AirDrop your URL.

EDITING PHOTOS
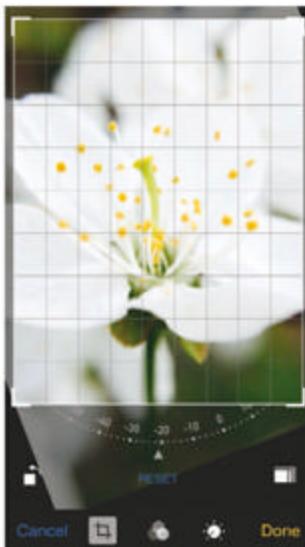
To rotate your image, select the crop icon and turn the dial left or right.
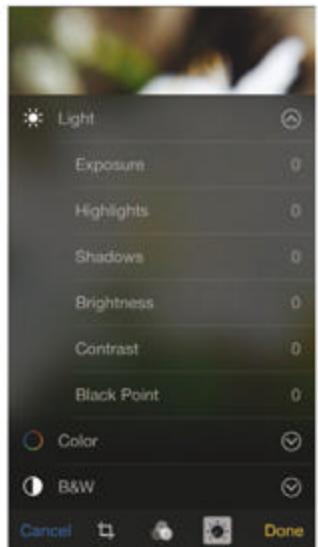
The Manual Adjustments icon lets you tweak Lighting and Color, as well as make B&W adjustments.

To edit a photo you're viewing, tap Edit in the upper right corner. You have the option to crop or rotate the image, boost lighting and saturation, and apply filters. When done, tap Save to keep changes; tap Cancel to discard them. If at any point after editing an image you decide you want to go back to the original, simply tap Edit, and then tap Revert. If you have third-party photo editing apps such as **Pixlr** (free) or **Litely** (free) on your device, you can access them directly from Photos by tapping Edit and then selecting the three dots at the top right. To enable more apps, tap More. This feature allows you to edit photos within the native app and bypass having to upload images elsewhere. ⏻

Rheanne Schlee is the associate editor of iPhone Life magazine. In her spare time Rheanne is an avid iPhoneographer who loves trying out the latest apps and gadgets for her iPhone camera. She recently graduated with her BA in literature and writing from Maharishi University of Management in Fairfield, Iowa.

HOW TO

MIND YOUR IPHONE MANNERS

LEARN FROM READERS' IPHONE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS

MARIAH HUBERT

Testing Specialist, Florida Gateway College
I can't stand it when people put their phones on the table during meals, whether it's at home or at a restaurant. It feels like they value their phones more than my company.

ALYSSA TODD

HR Manager, JCPenney
One time, a lady on her phone came over to the checkout line where I was working. She was very into her conversation, so I didn't ask her any of the questions I normally asked customers. Before she left, she decided—while still on the phone—to lecture me about how rude I was for not speaking to her!

BRENDA GRINER

Advocate for People with Disabilities
I find it odd when people hold their phones out in front of their mouths like they're talking on CB radios.
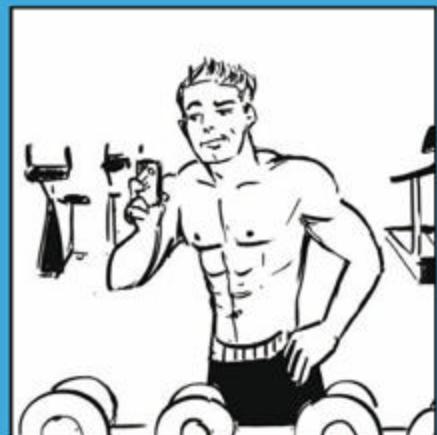

ALEXANDRA CROW

Crochet Designer
Relatives always try to Face-Time with me in the moments when I happen to not be wearing clothes.

MACKENZIE KELLY

Fitness Model
One of my biggest pet peeves is when people at the gym are either taking selfies of themselves in the mirror or excessively talking on the phone while I'm trying to work out.

MARLA BEDENBAUGH

Stay-at-Home Mom
I can't tell you how many times I've had people complain to me about what someone "said" in a text message. The fact is, if you didn't hear the tone of voice, you shouldn't jump to conclusions!

MICHAEL GERBER

Mail Carrier, United States Postal Service
I find it super annoying when people use their phones to pacify their children (especially if the child doesn't need to be pacified in the first place).

Another thing that troubles me about technology is how dependent we've become on it. People can't remember birthdays, phone numbers, or even how to give good driving directions!

TABITHA SEDGEWICK

Leadership and Communication Trainer
Just get on the phone with me. Some conversations are beyond texting!

ZAC RADKE

IT Director
It's pretty frustrating when you're texting with someone and they either can't decide what to say or accidentally leave the cursor in the text box. Meanwhile, you're left waiting in suspense as you stare at the three animated messaging dots moving across the screen.

Or what about when you have to listen to people talking loudly on the phone or, even worse, dictating a text message in public. Hearing them pronounce punctuation in a monotone voice such as "exclamation point" and "smiley face" just sounds weird.

KRISTY LOCKE

Registered Nurse
I don't understand why people think it's okay to take your picture and post it to social media without your permission.

KAT RICHARDS

Barn Manager and Horse Trainer
Texting and driving! I hate it!

TY HARRIS

Student
You know when people use "ty" in place of "thank you"? I thought people were dropping my name in random places during conversations for six months before realizing they were actually thanking me.

MADELINE WHEELWRIGHT

Loan Officer, 121 Financial Credit Union
It's funny when people overly abbreviate their text messages, especially older people! Weren't they the generation always getting on my case about using slang or slurring my words?
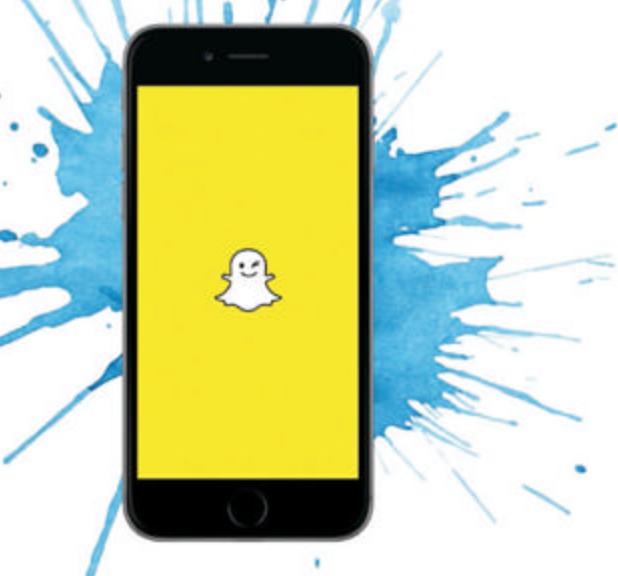
WHO ME?

Did any of these pet peeves describe you? Write in to petpeeves@iphonelife.com and defend yourself!

SNAPCHAT 101

A SELF(IE)-OBSESSED MILLENNIAL'S GUIDE TO ALL THINGS SNAPCHAT

BY REBECCA SANTIAGO

Mock me if you will for being such a card-carrying member of the selfie generation, but I *like* Snapchat, OK? It's an easy way to keep my dearest six-degrees-removed acquaintances up to date on my every move, which I assume they all truly appreciate. (Who wouldn't want to be in on such golden snippets as, "CUTE BABY ON SUBWAY"?)

As with all things social media—or just *social* things, period—there's a right way and a wrong way to use Snapchat. With great selfies come great responsibility. Allow me to walk you through the ins and outs of this picture-perfect app.

SNAPPING PHOTOS AND VIDEOS
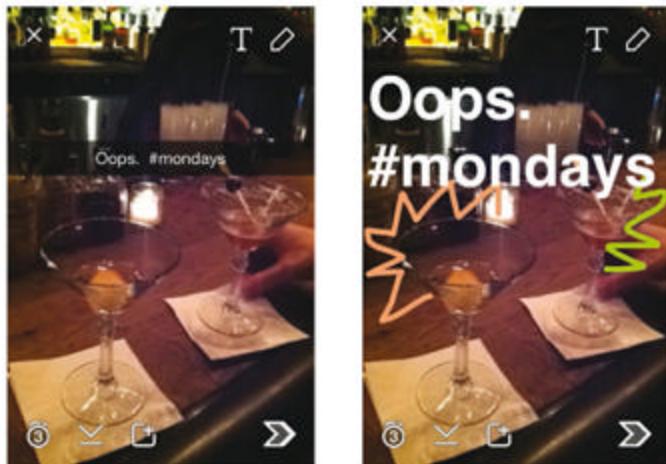
Numerous shots of your trip to the grocery store may be overkill for your Instagram followers—but not for your Snapchat besties! Chronicling your shopping dilemmas is easy peasy. Just open the app and tap the round button at the bottom of the screen to take a photo, or tap and hold to create a video. From there, you can add text to your photos and videos by tapping the "T" icon or by tapping anywhere else on the screen. Hit the "T" icon again to supersize your font, doodle on your image with the pencil tool, or even introduce filters by swiping left and right.

TIP: ADD FRIENDS FAST

If you're with friends and have Snapchat open on your devices, you can add each other by pointing your camera and tapping the dotted ghost icon on each other's account pages.

When you're satisfied with your snap, tap the little number in the lower left corner to control how long your friends can view your snap (this applies to photos, not videos). THIS IS IMPORTANT! Setting the snap for too long is dorky, and setting it too short might not give viewers enough time to process. (I do 4 to 5 seconds for a normal snap, and 2 for an embarrassing one I don't want my friends to screenshot.) Finally, press the bottom right arrow to send, select your victims, and *voilà*!

SHARING A STORY WITH ALL OF YOUR SNAP BUDDIES

Instead of sending to one person or a select group, a story snap appears on Snapchat's equivalent of a Facebook timeline, meaning that any of your friends can see it for 24 hours—so, best to save this for something that's ACTUALLY worth sharing en masse. To do it, take a snap as per usual. Then tap the square with the plus sign at the bottom of the page.

SENDING PRIVATE MESSAGES

The only time sending private messages *really* makes sense is when you receive a snap from someone that warrants a response, but you're not able to conceive of a snap that's anywhere near the level of what they just sent. (For example: when your friend snaps you a video of herself rooftop partying with a well-known band from the early aughts while you're sitting at home watching *The Jinx* for the third time.) In which case, you can swipe right on your contact to message them. Otherwise, I say stick to texting.
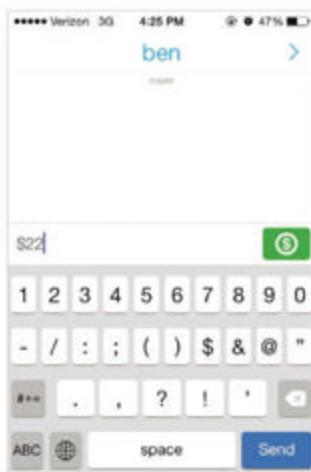
SENDING MONEY?!

Yep, this is really a thing. You can send money via the app's private chats; just write a dollar sign plus the amount of cash,

and hit send. But first, you'll need to enter your card info in Settings. Just tap the ghost symbol at the top of the screen, select the Settings icon in the upper right corner, tap Snapcash, and enter your debit or credit card information. Once that's taken care of, find your lucky recipient under My Friends, and tap on the Message symbol to begin a private message. Once you enter a dollar sign, the yellow circle will turn green, which you can tap to send cash! Oh, and if you hit the yellow camera button, you can add a selfie to your payment, which, at this point, why not, right? ⏻

Rebecca Santiago is a New York-based writer and editor, with bylines at *Architectural Digest*, *Glamour*, *Bustle*, *Boston magazine*, and more. She is an alumna of Tufts University. Follow her on Twitter at @rebsanti.

HOW TO BEAT 2048

5 SIMPLE RULES FOR MASTERING THIS INCREDIBLY ADDICTIVE GAME

BY DAVID AVERBACH

Whenever I have a little bit of time to kill, I reach straight for my iPhone to play 2048, a number-crunching puzzler the likes of **Candy Crush** (free) and **Threes** ($1.99). If you're one of the many people familiar with the game, you know just how addictive it can be; if you're not, well, brace yourself—this game will likely consume your life. Don't believe me? I have a colleague who had to stop playing because he was starting to develop carpal tunnel.
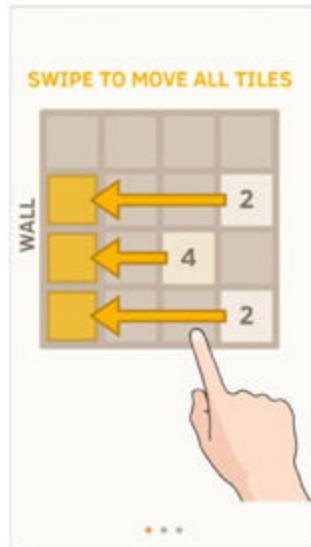
Swiping up, down, right, or left moves all tiles in that direction. When two tiles displaying the same number come in contact, they combine.

The premise of the game is simple: swipe up, down, left, or right to combine matching numbered tiles until you get to the elusive 2048 tile. With each move you make, a new numbered tile will be introduced to the mix (either a 2 or a 4). You can combine any two of the same tiles to form one larger tile. For example, if you have two tiles, each with a 2 on it, you can combine

them into a 4. Once you reach the 2048 tile, you've technically won the game, but that doesn't have to be the end. From there you can try to reach the 4096 tile and so on.

Although 2048 is easy to learn, it takes effort to master. I have labored for many hours in an attempt to develop a few hacks for successfully reaching the 2048 tile. By following these simple rules I'm sharing with you, you'll be a champion in no time!

RULE #1 – FILL UP THE BOX TO START
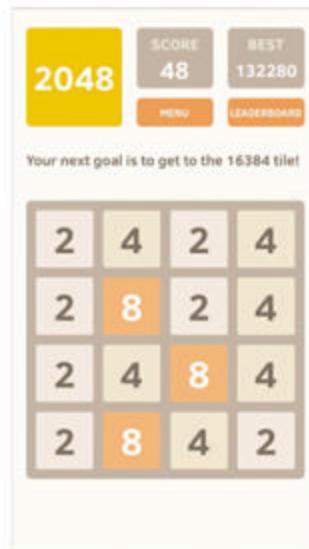
Start the game by swiping left and right repeatedly until the box is full of numbered tiles. Once it's full, you can start combining tiles to create larger numbers.

This is the most efficient way to quickly build high-numbered tiles. While you lose the game if you fill up the board and can't make any moves, at this early stage in the game, there is very little risk of this happening.

RULE #2 – BUILD CHAINS

When you first start playing, it's tempting to want to combine tiles whenever you get the chance. However, in order to

get to 2048, you need to build large numbered tiles in groups so you can combine them into even larger numbers. Having a random large-numbered tile in the middle of the box will actually get in the way and do more harm than good. The goal is to build a string of escalating numbers. This will allow you to eventually combine them all into one large number.

RULE #3 – BUILD TOWARD A CORNER

You always want to have your highest numbered tile in a corner (I prefer either the top left or top right corner). This will allow you to build the longest possible chain of tiles that snake around from row to row.

RULE #4 – TRY NOT TO SWIPE DOWN

This is the most important rule. If you remember nothing else from this article, remember to never swipe down. This rule helps you keep pushing your highest tile to the top corners, fulfilling Rule #2 and #3. Swiping down will mess up the chain you are building and wreak havoc on your game. Keep in mind that this rule only works if you build toward a top corner like I do. If you prefer, however, to build toward a bottom corner, you should—you guessed it—never swipe up!

And, as with most things in life, there are exceptions to the rule: sometimes you'll accidentally end up in a situation where there's no option but to swipe down. When this happens, it can be very difficult to recover. To avoid getting into this situation, try to think a couple of moves ahead. By combining several tiles at once, it is less likely that you'll end up in a position where you have to swipe down.

RULE #5 – ALWAYS KEEP THE TOP ROW FILLED

The best way to ensure your highest tile stays in its corner is to make sure the top row is always full. After combining a chain of tiles into one large numbered box, you will often have several open spaces in the top row. When this happens, make it your top priority to fill those spaces up.

TIP: GETTING BACK TO THE CORNER

Despite your best efforts, sometimes your highest numbered tile will end up in the middle of the top row and there will be a 2 or a 4 blocking the corner. When this happens, here are a few moves you can try. If your highest numbered tile is 512 or lower, then you can attempt to build toward the opposite corner until you reach the 1024 tile. If your highest tile is a 1024 or higher, then reversing corners can be difficult. For this situation I have devised a high-risk, high-reward maneuver called "The Averbach." (Hey, If I'm going to write the rules, I might as well name one of them after myself!)

Step one of The Averbach is to create a column of tiles that cannot be combined underneath your highest tile. Doing this is more of an art than a science—start by swiping left and right until you have filled the box with tiles. Then attempt to combine tiles until you have your non-collapsible column under your highest tile. This will take a bit of trial and error. Once you have your non-collapsible column, check to make sure that it isn't blocking the corner. If all looks good, then swipe down. Yes, you read that correctly; this is the only time I'll encourage you to swipe down. If all goes according to plan, the tile that is blocking the corner will slide down and you can slide the highest tile back into place.

HAPPY SWIPING!

There you have it! By following my simple rules, you should be climbing the Leaderboards in no time. My highest score ever is 132,280. (The 16,384 tile eludes me!) If you manage to beat my score, send me an email and let me know how you did it. ⏻

David Averbach is the CEO and Publisher of *iPhone Life* and *Android Life* magazine. David has an obsession with all things Apple. He grew up on Macs and now has a MacBook Pro, iPhone, iPad, and an Apple TV. David enjoys traveling and Ultimate Frisbee. He has been to over 20 countries. To contact David, email him at David@iphonelife.com.

Get an iPhone tip every day

iPhoneLife.com/dailytips
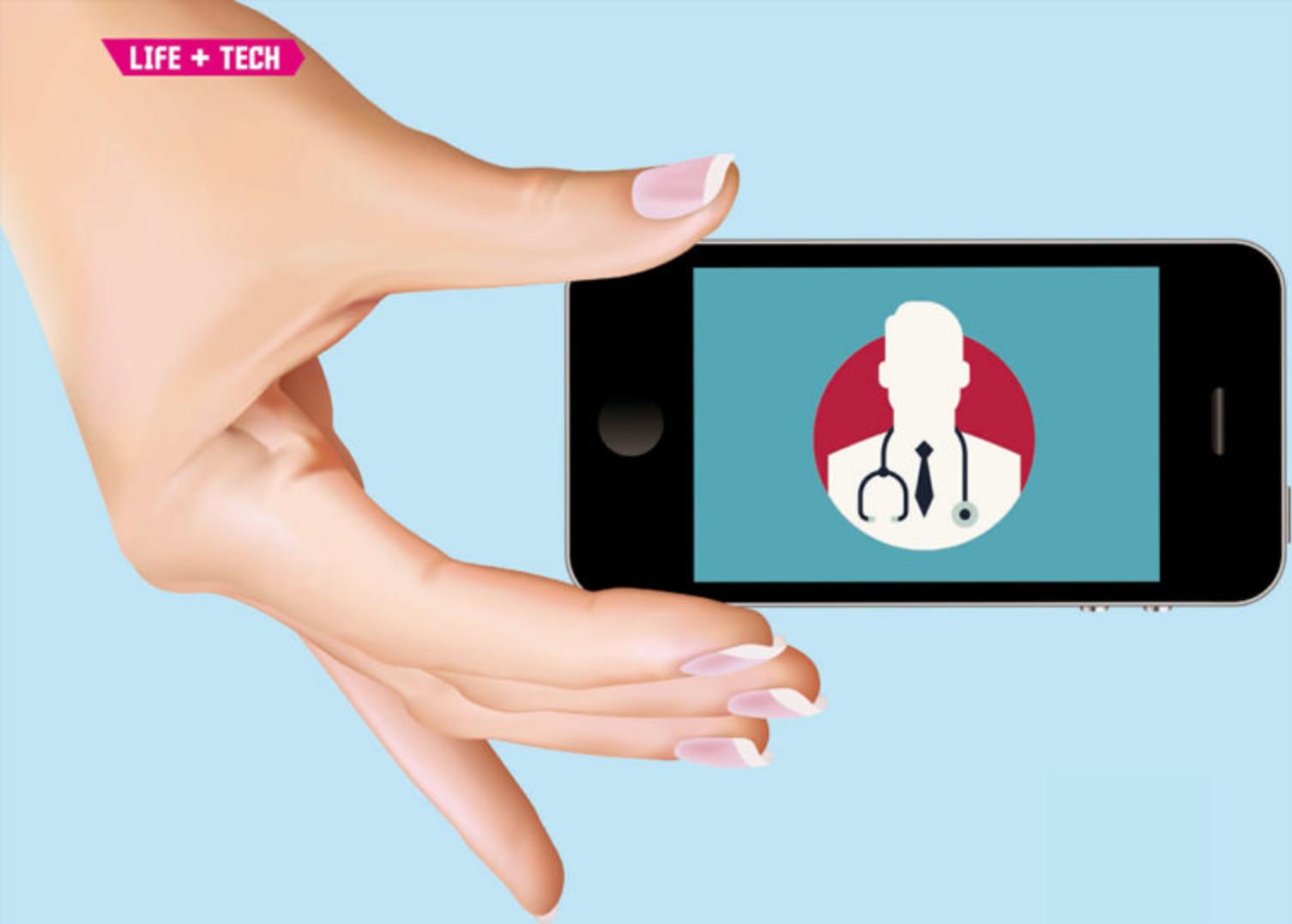
The venerable iPhone has taken on yet another role in our lives: as an affordable medical tool. Yes, health and fitness tracking is a great boon, but thanks to a smartphone gadget that diagnoses HIV and new apps that let users easily join clinical trials, the iPhone is moving into a new arena that could alter the future of medicine. We are learning to harness devices that are never far from our sides to improve our health.

By giving medical researchers the power to enlist participants in their studies, ResearchKit, Apple's new medical software, could contribute significantly to how we understand diseases.

A smartphone attachment that diagnoses HIV may be the most striking example of how our mobile devices can act as a springboard for other medical technologies. Biomedical engineering researchers at Columbia University realized they could take advantage of the computing power, hardware, and ubiquity of smartphones to help combat devastating infectious diseases.

Diagnosing HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, typically entails using an $18,450 diagnostic lab and waiting 2.5 hours to find the result, says Samuel Sia, an associate professor of biomedical engineering at Columbia University. But the dongle Sia and his team of researchers developed can test for both HIV and syphilis, costs an estimated $34 to create, and produces a diagnosis in 15 minutes.

Still in the experimental phase, the dongle was given a trial run at three community health centers in Rwanda, where health care workers tested 96 women at risk for HIV and syphilis infection. The dongle was as good as the most accurate tests available, Sia said, adding, "We were actually quite pleasantly surprised with the results."

"FROM DIAGNOSING HIV TO ASSESSING THE PROGRESSION OF PARKINSON'S, THE IPHONE HAS BECOME AN IMPORTANT MEDICAL TOOL."

This new diagnostic tool will potentially be able to save thousands of lives. Early diagnosis is crucial in treating and curbing the transmission of sexually transmitted infections. An inexpensive test that takes just 15 minutes to use will make it

THE BEST MEDICINE

HOW THE IPHONE IS AIDING MEDICAL RESEARCH

BY JIM KARPEN

possible to go into communities in developing countries and quickly identify those who need treatment. This could have an especially profound impact on pregnant women, Sia said.

"We know that early diagnosis and treatment in pregnant mothers can greatly reduce adverse consequences to both mothers and their babies," Sia said.

According to research from the *Nature Journal of Science*, if a test correctly identifies just 70–80 percent of those infected and 70–80 percent who aren't, one-tenth as many people may die.

THE ADVANTAGES OF AN IPHONE IN DIAGNOSING HIV

The researchers at Columbia, who have been working on a mobile version of a diagnostic lab since 2007, realized they could keep costs down by piggybacking on a smartphone.

They could use the phone's computing power to crunch the data and provide an easy-to-use interface for medical workers.

"The team developed the dongle to be small and light enough to fit into one hand," said Sia. "We were able to show

that complicated lab-based blood tests can run on a small smartphone accessory. The accessory performs the mechanical and optical measurements, while the smartphone provides a simple user interface and communication ability."

The device plugs into the headphone jack and not only sends data to the phone via this port, but also uses it to provide power to the dongle. The researchers used an iPod touch for their trial run and found that they could do 41 tests between charges. Of course, the latest iPhones would likely last much longer.

HOW THE DONGLE WORKS

The diagnostic test takes a small blood sample by pricking a patient's finger. The sample is diluted and put in a disposable plastic cassette with the necessary testing agents. The medical worker then inserts the cassette into the dongle and presses on a squeezable rubber bulb on the dongle, which creates the necessary vacuum for the sample and agents to mix. The researchers were able to greatly lower the cost of the device by using a rubber bulb in place of a mechanical vacuum pump.

Image credit: Tassaneewan Laksanasopin

The phone's battery powers the optical and mechanical measurements that take place in the dongle. At this point, the dongle sends the data to the smartphone application, which presents the results. Training the health workers to complete this process takes only a half hour.

The app includes a user-friendly interface to aid the workers through each test, offering step-by-step pictorial directions and built-in timers for each step. It also stores records of test results so they can be viewed later.

ACCURATE DIAGNOSIS

The beauty of the smartphone dongle is that it is not only inexpensive to produce but also has accuracy levels comparable to the best laboratory tests, according to a report published by the researchers in the journal of *Science Translational*

Medicine. The device correctly diagnosed 100 percent of the patients who were infected with HIV. Of those who didn't have HIV, the test was correct 87 percent of the time, with 12 patients receiving false positive readings.

The device was also used for two different tests for syphilis, one of which was 100 percent accurate and the other 92 percent accurate in identifying those with specific types of antibodies that signal a syphilis infection. The device was accurate 79 percent and 92 percent of the time in identifying those who didn't have the antibodies, meaning 19 uninfected people using one test and 7 using the other received false positive results.

Even with a margin of error, the patients were pleased to have the quick results. According to the study, 97 percent of the patients said they preferred the dongle, and were happy to get by with a pinprick rather than having a blood sample taken from a vein.

AVAILABLE IN A FEW YEARS

This iPhone-powered HIV lab could play an important role in diagnosing disease. "Our dongle presents new capabilities for a broad range of users, from health care providers to consumers," Sia said. "By increasing detection of syphilis infections, we might be able to reduce deaths by 10-fold. And for large-scale screening where the dongle's high sensitivity with few false negatives is critical, we might be able to scale up HIV testing at the community level with immediate antiretroviral therapy that could nearly stop HIV transmissions and approach elimination of this devastating disease."

Unfortunately, it will be a few years before it will go on sale. Sia said they still need to develop the device further to increase its robustness and to obtain approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Of course, other countries will regulate the device as well, though their review processes will take less time than the FDA's.

THE PROMISE OF APPLE'S RESEARCHKIT

Mobile technology is not only helping diagnose diseases but also helping us to better understand them. In March, Apple announced ResearchKit—an open-source software development tool that medical professionals can use to create new research and diagnostic apps for the iPhone.

Before introducing ResearchKit, Apple CEO Tim Cook said that researchers at hospitals and medical centers kept telling Apple that the iPhone could be a useful tool for their research. In response, Apple developed ResearchKit and released it as a free platform designed to assist in medical research.

"There is a brilliant and motivated research community out there, and we can't wait to see what they do with it," Cook said.

EARLY RESEARCHKIT APPS

Apple announced a handful of apps developed with ResearchKit during its March announcement.

MyHeart Counts (Free)
This app created at Stanford University surveys users and measures their activity to help researchers understand how a person's lifestyle and activity relate to cardiovascular health.

GlucoSuccess (Free)
The Massachusetts General Hospital developed this app to help researchers understand how factors such as diet, physical activity, and medications affect blood glucose levels. The app also helps participants see how these factors play a role in their own well-being.

Share the Journey (Free)
Share the Journey helps breast cancer researchers study the long-term effects of chemotherapy on energy levels, cognitive abilities, and mood.

Asthma Health (Free)
The Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York City launched this mobile app to track symptom patterns in individuals living in different environments and with different backgrounds, which may lead to new ways of personalizing treatment. It also helps participants avoid areas where air quality can worsen their symptoms.

STUDYING PARKINSON'S DISEASE

How can an iPhones contribute to medical research? Apple highlighted five new apps that empower users by letting them chart their data and see trends and that help researchers recruit participants for their studies.

For example, the **mPower** app (free) is focused on Parkinson's disease. One challenge is that the disease is so varied, affecting people in different ways and progressing at varied rates. Researchers need a clearer picture of what's happening because there's so much about Parkinson's they still don't understand. Ideally, they'd have data from thousands of people on how the disease is progressing and how that corre-

lates with genetic, behavioral, and environmental factors. An iPhone is the perfect tool.

> "APPLE'S MOBILE DEVICES HAVE NOW ENTERED THE ARENA OF MEDICAL DIAGNOSTICS AND RESEARCH — YET ONE MORE NEW DIRECTION FOR APPLE THAT WILL LIKELY HAVE REVOLUTIONARY CONSEQUENCES IN OUR LIVES."

The University of Rochester and Sage Bionetworks developed mPower to help researchers understand Parkinson's. It uses the iPhone to precisely measure data such as manual dexterity, balance, memory, and gait. Within days of the announcement, over 8,000 people downloaded the app and joined the study. That level of participation would otherwise be impossible or hugely expensive and time consuming, but

with the iPhone and mPower app, it's virtually free. Researchers say that mPower will help speed up the discovery of medical and biological knowledge about Parkinson's.

The app includes diagnostic tests, such as a tap test that assesses hand tremors. There's also a vocal test that uses the iPhone's microphone to detect minute vocal-cord vibrations. A walk test measures the person's gait and balance using the iPhone's accelerometer and gyroscope. The app also automatically pulls in activity data. Research has shown that exercise can slow the progress of Parkinson's and improve balance and coordination.

Of course, this new approach isn't without issues. For instance, participants in ResearchKit studies are self-selected and therefore unlikely to be representative of the entire population. There's also currently no way to verify that a participant actually has the disease in question. Still, ResearchKit's power comes from its potential to easily recruit participants and gather accurate data from sensors. And hopefully, these other issues will be worked out over time. ⏻

Jim Karpen, Ph.D, is on faculty at Maharishi University of Management in Fairfield, IA. He has been writing about the revolutionary consequences of computer technology since 1994. His Ph.D dissertation anticipated the Internet revolution. His site, jimkarpen.com, contains selected regular columns written for *The Iowa Source*. jim_karpen@iphonelife.com.

SENNHEISER MOMENTUM WIRELESS HEADPHONES

Sennheiser's Momentum Wireless headphones are the latest addition to the headphone veteran's popular over-ear line, sporting the same premium leather and stainless steel design as its predecessors, but with added Bluetooth and noise-cancellation technology. Sennheiser designed the headphones both to look classy and to fold together conveniently for greater portability. For the best sound quality and longest battery life, you can use the Momentums with a cable like conventional headphones.

In order to test the noise-cancellation technology, we took the Momentums to a crowded coffee shop. While they effectively blocked out most background noise, some ambient sound still seeped through. For most people, this shouldn't be a problem, but if you need 100 percent noise cancellation, you might be disappointed. Overall, these headphones provided excellent sound quality with a heavier bass balance than is typical for Sennheiser. While hip-hop and electronic music fans will appreciate this, many audiophiles prefer a more natural, balanced mix. The plush leather ear cups are comfortable at first, but they begin to feel tight after extended use.

Sennheiser Momentum Wireless Headphones
($499.95)
Pros: Made from premium materials; offer good sound quality; equipped with Bluetooth and active noise-cancellation technology.
Cons: They're pretty expensive; ear cups become uncomfortable with extended use.
Final Verdict: The Sennheiser Momentum Wireless headphones are beautifully crafted and produce solid sound. While slightly overpriced, these headphones are packed with features and are especially convenient for travel.
iPhone Life Rating: ★★★★ •

FEATURED iUSER: *Jeb Corliss*

Age: 33
Location: Marina del Rey, CA
One-Line Bio: Daredevil Jeb Corliss is perhaps the greatest pioneer in wingsuit flying, an aerial sport on par with skydiving or hang gliding.

Stocks: The stock market has become a big part of my business. I have to keep track of the markets' movements to know when to buy and sell.

Google Earth: Google Earth is super helpful when I hear about a possible location for wingsuit flying. I can instantly look it up and view a virtual world.

GoPro: I use this app to remotely control every aspect of my GoPro camera, from changing the settings to taking photos and videos. I can also review videos and pictures on the camera through the phone.

Kindle: I love reading, and this has become my favorite way to do it. I now have a library of over a thousand books, though I am not sure if I will ever be able to read them all.

Windfinder: When I'm planning to go BASE jumping—a practice that entails jumping from a fixed structure such as a bridge or building—I use this app to study the wind conditions.
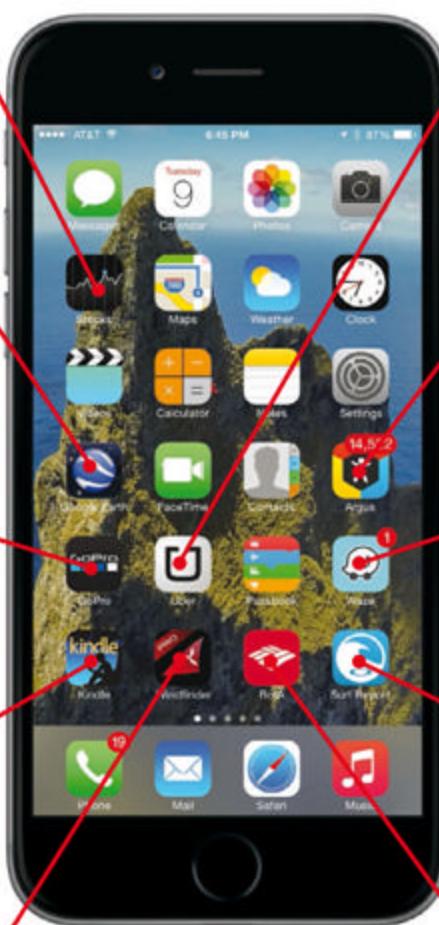
Uber: When I go for long walks in Venice and Santa Monica, I can use Uber to give me a ride home if I get tired. It's one of my favorite ways to get where I need to go.

Argus: Argus is a fitness app that keeps track of my activity—every run, walk, bike ride, and hike. It also tells me how many calories I've burned and how I'm measuring up to my fitness goals.

Waze: This is without a doubt the greatest GPS app I have ever used. It knows where the bad traffic is and routes me around it. I love this app.

Surf Report: This app tells me about the tides pretty much everywhere around the world and gives me a heads up when the good waves are on their way.

Bank of America: I rarely walk into a bank anymore. Instead, I deposit all my checks by simply snapping photos of them within the app.

WHAT'S HOT

Summer Gear for Beaches, Barbeques, and Beyond

By Paula Bostrom

Summer is my favorite season. It's a time when I can bask in the warm weather, throw backyard barbecues, and tend to my flowers. Even when I'm outdoors or on a family trip, I like to have my iDevices right there with me and am always on the look-out for products that enhance their useful-ness so I can share them with *iPhone Life* readers. This season, I've found new prod-ucts as well as some time-tested ones that will work perfectly to make your summer more efficient, relaxed, and fun.

Polk Nue Era Headphones
($79.95)

Polk's Nue Era ear-buds are a great choice for reducing noise on family road trips. Not only do they tune out ambient sound, but they also limit the noise that escapes from them, making for fewer com-plaints coming from the backseat. The memory foam and silicone ear tips are specially shaped to enhance passive noise isolation and de-liver excellent audio performance. The earbuds, which come in a tortoise or black finish, have a built-in microphone and a three-button controller for audio and phone control.

Quirky Aros Smart Window Air Conditioner
($279)

The Aros Smart Window Air Conditioner is designed to automatically maintain the right temperature for your home. It suggests cooling settings based on your budget and the weather forecast for the month so you can stay comfortable and save on energy costs. The unit's companion app, **Wink** (free), lets you control the temperature of your home from anywhere, and even sets up the Aros to track your iPhone's location so it will automatically turn off when you leave and turn back on before you get home. Best of all, Aros adjusts to your patterns over time, predicting your desired temperature throughout the day.

KONA Waterproof iPhone Case
($12.97)

For me, summer means several trips to the lake. I like to take my iPhone with me so I can shoot videos of my kids wa-terskiing or riding on the towable tube behind our boat. Yet I'm always nervous that my iPhone might decide to go for a swim too. With KONA's waterproof case, I no longer have to worry. The "case" is actually a pouch that can accommodate any iPhone model, even the 6 Plus. The clear plastic allows you to take photos in or out of the water and access all of the touch-screen functions. It's waterproof up to 100 feet and comes with a five-year replacement guarantee. It also floats, making it easy to rescue in case it tumbles overboard.

UE MEGABOOM
($299.99)

The big brother to the UE BOOM, the MEGABOOM is an asset to any pool party or barbe-cue. Its dual performance drivers, passive radiators, and digital signal processing mean high-quality bass, mids, and highs. As well as being IPX7-rated waterproof, the MEGA-BOOM has a 20-hour rechargeable battery, weighs less than 2 pounds, and allows you to play and control music from up to 100 feet away. Use the **UE MEGABOOM** app (free) to pair two speakers together or to customize your speaker set-tings. The app also features an alarm clock setting so you can wake up to the sound of music playing via your beloved MEGABOOM.

O-tus Bluetooth Mini Speakers
($75)

I am an avid bicyclist, and I've found that when I listen to music while I'm riding I can go farther and faster. However, wearing earbuds isn't a safe option because I can't hear cars behind me on the road or other bikers if they wish to pass me on the trail. The O-tus Bluetooth Mini Speakers take care of that problem. They fit under your helmet (skateboard helmets too) and rest just above your ears so you can hear your music while also tuning into your surroundings. They come with a Bluetooth remote control that attaches to the back of your helmet and a chain lanyard and clothing clip for another listening option. Talk time is up to three hours with 130 hours of standby.

Celluon PicoPro Portable Projector
($379.99)

Summer is great for traveling and being active, but it also offers a chance to kick back and relax. For those laid-back summer nights, PicoPro can project movies in HD from your iDevice onto the wall of your camping cabin or onto a projector screen by the pool. The tiny projector is super lightweight and fits into the palm of your hand. It comes with a power adapter, holding stand, travel pouch, and MHL and HDMI cables.

SmartMat
(Pre-order for $297, ships Aug 2015)

With warmer weather often comes the motivation to get in shape by ramping up your fitness program. This deceivingly standard-looking yoga mat, in conjunction with the **SmartMat** app, uses high-tech sensors to help you get the most out of your yoga practice by providing real-time feedback on your alignment and balance. When you first set up the SmartMat, it will take you through a series of movements to calibrate your body shape, size, and personal limitations. It's like having your own personal yoga instructor in your home.

Edyn Smart Garden System
(Sensor $99.99; Water Valve $59.99)

Edyn's solar-powered Garden Sensor monitors and tracks environmental conditions, such as light, humidity, temperature, soil nutrition, and moisture to help you make smart planting choices and to alert you when your plants need to be fertilized, watered, or harvested. And if you have an existing water system, the Edyn Water Valve can automatically water your plants when they need it based on data collected by the Garden Sensor. You can also use the **Edyn** app (free) to manually water your plants from anywhere. ⏻

Paula Bostrom is a freelance media broadcaster and journalist. Her previous experience includes radio and newspaper reporting. She enjoys traveling with her family and writing about the places she's visited. Paula is a regular blogger and contributor at iphonelife.com.

BACK — On — TRACK

TOP 10 APPLE WATCH APPS FOR HEALTHY LIVING

BY JACQUI LANE

Lark Chat
(Free)
Looking for a less tedious way to track your daily diet? Instead of searching through a huge, confusing database, just speak into your wrist and Lark will log your meals and sleep patterns for you. And don't worry about keeping track of all your fitness data—exercise is automatically tracked by your Apple Watch's built-in motion sensors. The app uses artificial intelligence to create your own personal health coach, so you can get feedback tailored specifically to you and your habits 24/7.

Cue by Humana
(Free)
While many apps focus narrowly on individual aspects of your health, Cue by Humana aims to promote healthy behavior by reminding you to take many small steps that add up to overall good health. The app nudges you throughout the day to practice healthy habits, like drinking more water, stretching periodically, focusing on your breathing, and spending time outdoors. A colorful, easy-to-read chart tracks your progress throughout the day to make sure you haven't missed any of your cues.

Hello Heart
(Free)
Keep track of your ticker with Hello Heart, an Apple Watch-compatible app designed to help you maintain cardiovascular health. The app notifies you via your Apple Watch when it's time to check your blood pressure and allows you to input the data. When you ope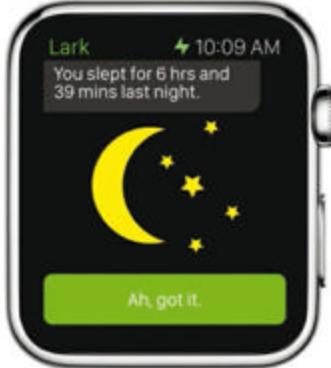n the app on your iPhone, your blood pressure history will appear in an easy-to-read graph that makes it simple to spot trends. The app is also integrated with many clinics and hospitals, so you can download your lab results and medical records to the app for on-the-go access.

Mango Health
(Free)
Keeping track of what medications you're taking, when to take them, and what to avoid while you're taking them can cause quite the headache. Mango Health's medication manager app aims to relieve that pain by allowing you to schedule your daily doses and receive timely reminders on your Apple Watch, so you never forget to take your medication or order a refill. When you schedule a dose, you'll see any warnings and drug interaction information. The app also offers rewards points for taking your medicine correctly, which you can exchange for gift cards to your favorite stores or for donations to leading charities.

WaterMinder
($1.99)
We all know that drinking water is good for us, but it's still easy to fall short of the recommended eight glasses a day. WaterMinder offers a visual representation of how much water you've had to drink, displaying your progress as a percentage of your daily goal, along with the number of ounces you still need to guzzle. Get reminders when it's time to pour yourself a cup, and log your intake right from your wrist. Other features include the ability to create custom sizes (perfect for those oddly sized water bottles!) and a graph displaying your water intake over the past two weeks.
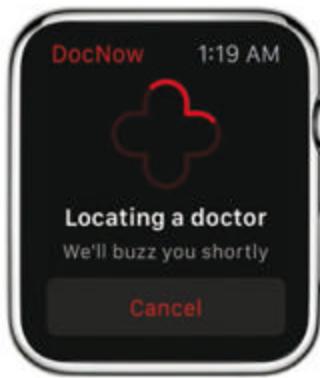
DocNow
(Free)
When you're under the weather, the last thing you want is to hang out in the doctor's waiting room with other coughing, sneezing patients. DocNow helps you avoid that scenario by offering 24/7 access to a network of doctors that you can speak to personally via video chat. Request a consultation on your Apple Watch and you'll be buzzed when a doctor is available; open the app on your iPhone to begin your video consultation. If needed, your doctor will send a prescription to your local pharmacy. At $2.99 a minute, the consultation can be pricey, but the service's convenience can't be beat.

Clue
(Free)
A missed menstrual period can be an early warning sign of something more serious, which is why Apple received so much criticism for leaving this critical component of women's health out of its Health app. Clue is here to pick up the slack, allowing you to track all aspects of your reproductive health, including your period, basal body temperature, pain level, mood, and sexual activity. The Watch app makes it easy to see where you are in your cycle and receive reminders when you're most fertile.

Green Kitchen
($4.99)
Good health starts with a healthy diet. Green Kitchen serves up healthy vegetarian recipes with minimal amounts of gluten, sugar, and dairy. Recipes are marked as raw, vegan, gluten free, or whole grain to help you choose the dishes that meet your dietary needs. The smart timer feature for the Apple Watch shows you what's cooking and how much time is left, and allows you to add a few minutes to the timer if needed.

BACtrack
(Free)
This innovative app pairs with BACtrack's line of police-grade smart breathalyzers ($49.99–$99.99) to monitor your blood alcohol content (BAC). Set a reminder to take a reading 15 minutes after your last drink; the results will be transmitted to your Apple Watch, where you can compare it to past readings. The Apple Watch also features the Active ZeroLine function, which displays an estimate of when you'll get back to zero percent, with a countdown showing your estimated sobriety level over time.

FitStar Yoga
(Free)
Yoga apps are a dime a dozen these days, but it's not exactly convenient to stop mid-pose, pick up your phone, and make sure you're in the right position. FitStar Yoga's app for the Apple Watch displays the pose right on your wrist, so you can see at a glance if you're getting it right. You can also see how much time you have left of your workout and control the session by pausing or rewinding. ⏻

After spending some time in college as a Management Information Systems (MIS) major, Jacqui realized she preferred words to numbers and ended up graduating with a journalism degree instead. Her love of all things geeky stayed with her, though, and she's found a happy medium in her career as a tech journalist.

iView

Hal, along with his wife Rita, founded *iPhone Life*'s original publishing company, Thaddeus Computing, in 1985. You can reach him at hal@thaddeus.com. Check out Hal's new book at meditatingentrepreneur.com.

Dear Apple, Please Fix iTunes

As Apple enthusiasts, our team normally writes about what's useful and fun. However, in this column I've decided to discuss a product central to the iPhone and iPad experience that I find almost unusable—the desktop version of iTunes.

To my surprise, *PC Magazine* online gave the latest desktop version of iTunes 4.5 out of 5 stars, and *CNET* awarded it 4 out of 5 stars. However, many of those commenting on the reviews shared my outlook. One user aptly called it the "worst consumer experience since dentistry." Another snarked, "It's enough to make a grown man cry. Why does Apple hate us?"

Impossible to Comprehend

Using iTunes to manage my content is overwhelmingly complicated. I often feel lost as I attempt to manage my apps, music, podcasts, movies, iCloud, shopping experience, and devices. Not only does the bloat of the desktop version make iTunes difficult to navigate, but it also contributes to the software's painful sluggishness.

Apple, Get Your Priorities Right!

With each new iTunes update, organizing my content just gets harder. All the while, Apple gets progressively more aggressive in promoting its stores. Sure, it's nice to have 10 ways to traverse the Apple Store, but I want to easily access my own digital content first and foremost.

For a company that puts so much emphasis on the user experience, when it comes to iTunes, Apple treats its customers surprisingly poorly. I have purchased lots of apps and paid for an iCloud subscription to help manage my large personal library of music and spoken audio. Unfortunately, the kludgy interface was not written for large collections, and through the years I have spent countless hours organizing and reorganizing my apps and music.

Always Changing

The user experience differs across devices. The functionality of the single desktop app is spread out among a number of iPhone apps, including Music, App Store, Podcast, iTunes, iBooks, and iTunes University.

Even when I master a version on a device, its functionality and interface changes with major software updates, altering iTunes significantly with no discernible benefit, wasting time and adding frustration.

Unintuitive and Confusing

Unsurprisingly, iTunes can confound even the savviest users, what with its excessive software bloat, emphasis on selling stuff, and ever-changing interface. I often can't figure out how to do what I want. There's little documentation, and what is offered doesn't address major issues. I haven't used Apple Support, but many online users express dissatisfaction.

A Few Suggestions

Please, Apple, start over with iTunes and redesign the desktop version from the ground up. When possible, mimic the iOS apps and create different functionalities as separate desktop apps.

It's time to make iTunes like your other great products—all about the user experience, both for the newbie and the serious consumer of apps and music. ⏻